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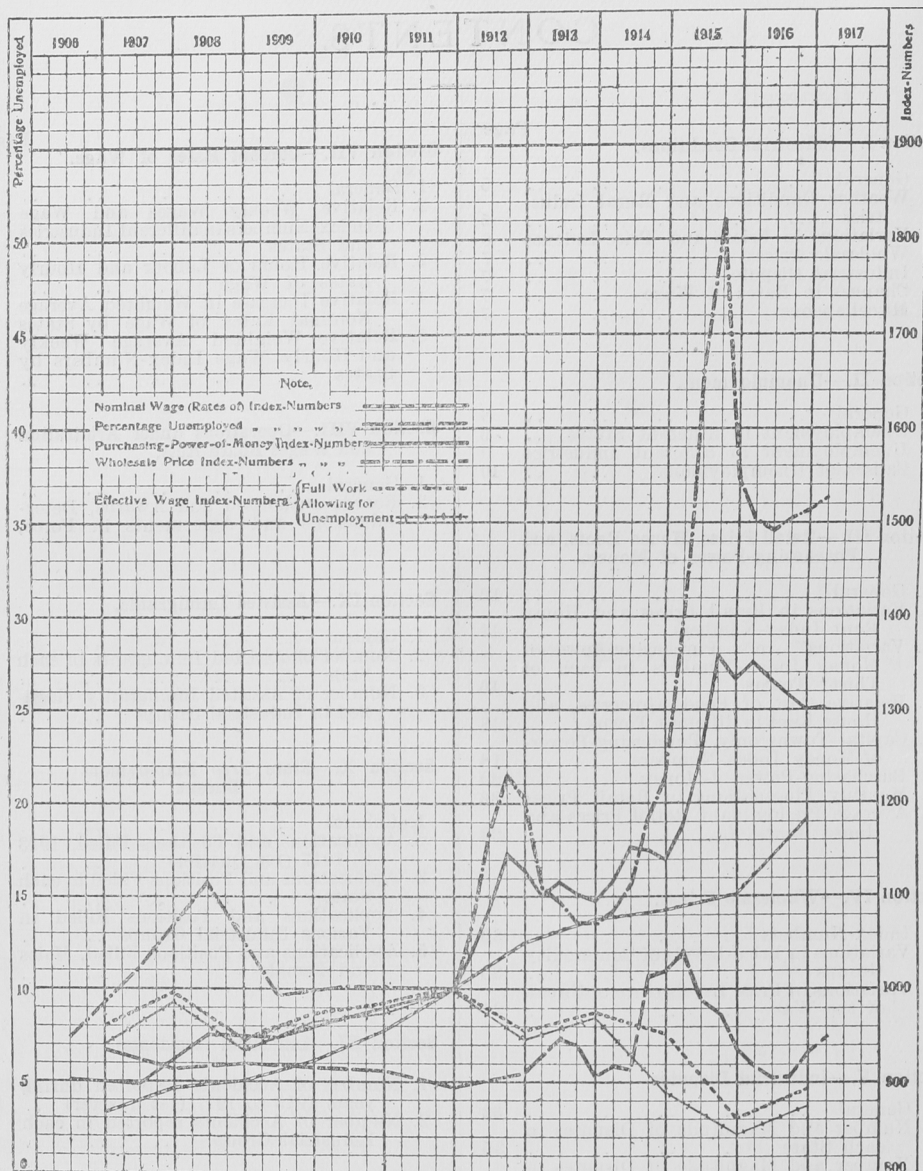
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Purchasing-Power-of-Money, Wholesale Prices, and Nominal and Effective Wage Index-Numbers, and Percentage of Unemployed.



EXPLANATORY NOTE.—The figures on the left represent the scale for the percentage of persons unemployed according to trade union returns. The figures on the right represent the scale for the several index-numbers, the year 1911 being taken in each case as base (= 1000). Since the end of the year 1911 the index-numbers for cost of food, groceries, and house rent (average for the six metropolitan towns) and for wholesale prices (Melbourne) are shewn each quarter, while unemployment percentages are shewn quarterly since the end of the year 1912 only. Unemployment figures for previous years are shewn as at the end of each year, while other index-numbers refer to the average for the whole year. Nominal and effective wage index-numbers are only computed annually. It should be observed that the purchasing-power-of-money and wholesale price index-numbers since the year 1911 shew the average level during the whole of each quarter; but for purposes of convenience they have, however, been plotted on the graph as at the end, and not the middle, of each quarter. The purchasing-power-of-money index-number is based upon a constant regimen: see Report No. 1, Appendix vii., and Labour Bulletin No. 9, pp. 27 to 46.

LABOUR BULLETIN.

No. 17.—(JANUARY to MARCH, 1917).

SECTION I.—INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS.

1. **General.**—Returns received from the secretaries of trade unions show that the percentage of unemployment in the first quarter of the current year was 7.5, compared with 6.7 in the immediately preceding quarter, and 5.9 in the corresponding quarter (January to March) of 1916. The percentage of unemployment was less in the quarter under review than in the fourth quarter of 1916 in Victoria and Western Australia, and greater in the remaining States. Compared with the corresponding period a year ago, the percentage was less in Western Australia and Tasmania, and greater in the remaining States. As regards industrial groups, those groups covering the manufacture of articles of food, drink, tobacco and miscellaneous manufacturing shew a decrease in unemployment in the quarter under review, compared with the fourth quarter of 1916, while all other groups shew increases. Compared with the corresponding quarter (January to March) of 1916, the percentage of unemployment was greater in the quarter under review in all the groups, with the exception of I. (Wood, Furniture, etc.) III. (Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc.) and VIII. (Mining, Quarrying, etc.).

2. **Weather Conditions and Rural Industries.**—The reports received during the months of March, April, May and June shew that generally the condition of stock and crops throughout the Commonwealth was fairly satisfactory. Owing to the prevalence of the mice plague in New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia, much damage to stacks of hay and corn is reported, while the crops for the coming season have been seriously affected by the ravages of the mice. Western Australia and Tasmania both report that excessive rains have affected the growth of the crops in these States. In New South Wales during the months of March, April, and May, the rainfall was generally below the average. Reports received, however, shew that during March and April the condition of stock and crops was satisfactory. The continued dry weather in May is said to have caused some anxiety, and to have hindered the preparation of the ground for sowing. Ploughing and seeding operations had to be suspended in many districts, and the supply of water for domestic and stock purposes became very low. The pastures were further adversely affected by severe frosts during this month. Contrary to the general experience, good rains were reported in the South-western Slope and portions of the Southern Tableland and Riverina. During the month of June beneficial rains fell, which enabled ploughing and sowing to be completed. The crops already shewing promised well in spite of the mice, though fields had to be replanted on account of this plague. The prospects at the end of the month were once again promising, and practically throughout the State stock were in good condition, and the prospects for the spring said to be satisfactory. Throughout a considerable area of Victoria the mice plague has caused much damage. The harvest was completed in March in the late districts, and throughout the period under review, weather conditions have been generally satisfactory. In many districts sowing

NOTE.—The Labour Bulletin, in its accounts of proceedings, abstracts of reports, legal decisions, quotations and other matters of concern to labour, is not to be regarded as expressing an official endorsement of any of the views or opinions contained therein.

has been delayed in the hope that there would be some abatement of the mice plague. During May and June so serious were the ravages of the mice that early sown crops were, in many cases, so thin as to be in need of resowing. Hay and wheat stacks were in many districts almost ruined, and the coming harvest will probably be seriously affected. Otherwise the conditions for stock and crops were favourable. Good lambing percentages are reported, and the prospects for fruit are said to be good. Dairy farmers have had, generally, a successful period. In Queensland during March good rainfalls were reported, but during the succeeding months—April, May and June—the rainfall was much below the average. The dryness of the weather retarded ploughing and sowing operations in many districts. In those more fortunate districts where it had been possible to complete the sowing, the crops were making favourable progress. During June severe frosts were experienced, which seriously affected the growth of winter cereals. Grass and herbage were plentiful, but dry, and stock continued in good condition. The mice plague seriously interfered with agricultural operations in South Australia. Following a summer season noted for the abundance of rain, the dryness of the month of April had no serious effects. During May and June the rainfall was again reported to be above normal. Ploughing and seeding operations were delayed, owing to the mice plague. By June, however, in most of the agricultural areas these had been completed, and crops were beginning to shew above ground. They were reported to be fairly satisfactory, but patchy as a result of the havoc wrought by the mice. In many parts they had suffered to such an extent that it was necessary to put in another lot of seed. Except in the far North stock were reported to be in good condition, and the supply of water and feed plentiful.

Western Australia experienced a period of heavy rainfall from March to June, which had the effect of delaying ploughing and seeding owing to the soft soil, and further interfered adversely with those crops which had been sown. There was an abundance of water and feed, and stock were consequently reported to be in good condition. The fruit harvest closed in March, and is reported to have been very satisfactory. The cool showery weather experienced in Tasmania during the summer continued during the period under review. Much damage was done by storms during April. The dairying season has been satisfactory, but the unfavourable weather has resulted in a lessened area under crop compared with a year ago. Early sown crops are reported to be making satisfactory progress, but later ones are backward owing to the excessive wet weather. Stock are reported to be in fair condition, but to have suffered somewhat from the cold and wet.

3. Variations in Retail Prices, House Rent, and Purchasing-Power of Money.—On pages 31 and 32 of Labour Report No. 6, attention was directed to the fact that a change had been made in the base period to which the index-numbers for the thirty towns were computed. Formerly the weighted average expenditure in the thirty towns for the whole of the year 1912 was taken as base, but in the Report referred to, it was stated that in that Report, and in future Reports and Bulletins, the index-numbers in the tables referring to the thirty towns, as well as in those referring to the six capital towns, the base to which the index-numbers are computed would be the weighted average expenditure for the six capital towns in 1911. The tables on pages 33 to 38 of Report No. 6 give the index-numbers for the thirty towns for food and groceries only at monthly, quarterly and yearly periods, and for house rent and food,

groceries and house rent combined, at quarterly and yearly periods for the years 1912 to 1915 inclusive. These were brought up to date in Section IV. of Labour Report No. 7. It should be observed, therefore, that if it is desired to make comparisons with the index-numbers given in Section III. hereof for the thirty towns, such comparisons should be made with the index-numbers given in the Reports referred to, and not with index-numbers published in Reports or Quarterly Bulletins issued prior to May, 1916.

The index-numbers for food, groceries and house rent combined, for thirty of the more important towns, rose from 1276 in the fourth quarter of 1916 to 1279 in the quarter under review. The corresponding index-number for the first quarter (January to March) of 1916, was 1325; of 1915, 1151; of 1914, 1090; of 1913, 1078; and of 1912, 1023. The combined index-number for the quarter under review was lower in Western Australia and higher in New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, and Tasmania. The index-number for Victoria was the same for the quarter under review as for the immediately preceding quarter. Compared with the corresponding quarter of 1915, it was lower in all the States.

There has been a decrease in the price of groceries and meat, and an increase in the price of dairy produce and of house rents during the quarter under review compared with the fourth quarter of last year. Compared with the first quarter of 1916, the index-numbers indicate that there has been a decrease in the cost of groceries, dairy produce and meat, and an increase in house rents in the first quarter of the current year.

4. **Wholesale Prices.**—The general level of wholesale prices shews that there was an increase during the first quarter of 1917 compared with the immediately preceding quarter. The index-number for the fourth quarter of 1916 was 1514, compared with 1527 in the quarter under review. There was a decrease in the wholesale prices of meat, but this was more than counterbalanced by increases in other commodities.

5. **Industrial Disputes.**—The number of disputes which began during the first quarter of 1917 was 119, compared with 93 in the preceding quarter. Of this number, 76 occurred in New South Wales. In the new disputes 13,349 persons were directly, and 5432 indirectly involved, giving a total of 18,781. The total number of working days lost in both new and old disputes was 153,521, and the estimated total loss in wages £82,784. By far the greatest number of the disputes occurred in the mining industry. The four disputes in Group II. (Engineering, Metal Works, etc.), however, were responsible for more than half the total number of working days lost, while the estimated loss in wages in these disputes amounted to £42,653, out of a total of £82,784 in all disputes.

6. **Changes in Rates of Wage.**—The number of changes (all of which with the exception of one were increases) recorded during the first quarter of 1917 was 138, of which 54 occurred in New South Wales, 24 in Victoria, 22 in Queensland, 23 in South Australia, 8 in Western Australia, and 6 in Tasmania. The total number of persons affected was 85,738, and the aggregate increase in wages per week was £22,329. The largest number of persons affected, and the largest increase in wages, occurred in Group XIV. (Miscellaneous), in which 31,367 persons obtained increases aggregating £6080 per week.

7. **Miscellaneous.**—During the quarter under review, the number of selected and nominated immigrants arriving in the Commonwealth was 375 (comprising 232 dependants), compared with 190 during the third quarter of 1916. The greatest number (166) is reported from

New South Wales. As regards occupations, of the males, 17 are classified in the Pastoral, Agricultural, etc., group, and of the females, 84 are domestic servants.

The State Government Free Employment Bureaux report that during the quarter 25,407 applications for employment were received. During the same period 8053 applications from employers were received, and 9857 positions filled.

The total number of fatal accidents reported during the quarter was 30, and of other accidents causing incapacitation from work for over 14 days, was 1185. The corresponding figures for the fourth quarter of 1916 were 29 and 1221 respectively. By far the greatest number of accidents occurred in the mining industry.

SECTION II.—UNEMPLOYMENT.

1. **General.**—Returns as to unemployment for the quarter ended 31st March, 1917, were received from 455 trade unions, having a membership of 290,849. The number unemployed was 21,892, or 7.5 per cent., compared with 6.7 per cent. in the preceding quarter, and 5.9 per cent. in the corresponding quarter (January to March) of 1916. The returns given in the following table do not include persons out of work through strikes or lockouts :—

Unemployment.—Number of Unions and Members Reporting, and Number and Percentage Unemployed, 1891 to 1917 (1st Quarter).

PARTICULARS.				Unions.	Membership.	UNEMPLOYED.	
						Number.	Percentage.
1891	..	..	..	25	6,445	599	9.3
1896	..	..	..	25	4,227	457	10.8
1901	..	..	..	39	8,710	574	6.6
1906	..	..	..	47	11,299	753	6.7
1907	..	..	..	51	13,179	757	5.7
1908	..	..	..	68	18,685	1,117	6.0
1909	..	..	..	84	21,122	1,223	5.8
1910	..	..	..	109	32,995	1,857	5.6
1911	..	..	..	160	67,961	3,171	4.7
1912	..	..	..	464	224,023	12,441	5.5
1913,	1st	Quarter*	..	451	237,216	15,234	6.4
	2nd	"	"	458	243,523	17,854	7.3
	3rd	"	"	472	252,325	17,698	7.0
	4th	"	"	465	251,207	13,430	5.3
1914,	1st	"	"	462	262,133	15,541	5.9
	2nd	"	"	467	279,318	15,856	5.7
	3rd	"	"	466	283,584	30,367	10.7
	4th	"	"	439	250,716	27,610	11.0
1915,	1st	"	"	476	279,388	33,465	12.0
	2nd	"	"	456	273,190	26,015	9.5
	3rd	"	"	484	279,133	24,682	8.8
	4th	"	"	465	273,149	18,489	6.8
1916,	1st	"	"	475	291,525	17,178	5.9
	2nd	"	"	476	298,675	15,741	5.3
	3rd	"	"	472	278,047	14,649	5.3
	4th	"	"	470	292,051	19,562	6.7
1917,	1st	"	"	455	290,849	21,892	7.5

* For years prior to 1913 the figures refer to the end of the year only, and not to separate quarters. The quarterly figures shew the number of persons who were out of work for three days or more during a specified week in each quarter; they do not include persons out of work through strikes or lockouts.

For reasons indicated on pages 16 to 18 of Labour Report No. 2, this table does not furnish a complete register of unemployment. Nevertheless for the purpose of making comparisons, and shewing tendencies over a period of years, the percentages returned as unemployed, though not exact, are the most satisfactory available. The significance of the figures shewing the percentage of unemployment may be better understood by a reference to the graph on page 4. During the quarter under review, the percentage of unemployment was greater than in either the immediately preceding quarter or the corresponding quarter of 1916.

2. Unemployment in Different States.—*Quarter ended 31st March, 1917.*—Of the 455 organisations reporting unemployment, the largest number (134 unions with 129,296 members) was in New South Wales, Victoria (with 104 unions and 81,891 members) coming next. As pointed out in the previous issues of this Bulletin, the industrial occupations of the people, as well as the extent to which the different industries are represented in the returns, vary considerably in the several States. Any comparisons, therefore, that are drawn between these results are necessarily subject to the qualification that the figures relate to some extent to different classes of industry.

In the following table particulars are given for the quarter ended the 31st March last as to the number and percentage unemployed, and the increase or decrease compared with the preceding quarter (October to December, 1916), and the corresponding quarter (January to March) of 1916 :—

Unemployment in different States, for Quarter ending 31st March, 1917.

STATE.	Number Reporting.		Unemployed.		Percentage Unemployed in—		Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in Percentage compared with—	
	Unions.	Members.	Number.	Percentage.	4th Quar. 1916.	1st Quar. 1916.	4th Quar. 1916.	1st Quar. 1916.
N.S. Wales ..	134	129,296	8,433	6.5	5.7	5.7	+ 0.8	+ 0.8
Victoria ..	104	81,891	7,384	9.0	9.1	5.8	— 0.1	+ 3.2
Queensland ..	56	36,452	3,863	10.6	6.7	7.5	+ 3.9	+ 3.1
Sth. Australia	58	19,213	985	5.1	4.7	4.6	+ 0.4	+ 0.5
W. Australia	67	18,709	1,036	5.5	5.9	6.6	— 0.4	— 1.1
Tasmania ..	36	5,288	191	3.6	2.4	4.7	+ 1.2	— 1.1
C'WLTH ..	455	290,849	21,892	7.5	6.7	5.9	+ 0.8	+ 1.6

NOTE.—As to the general limitations of the figures given in the above table, see remarks above.

Compared with the preceding quarter, there was an increase in unemployment in New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and Tasmania, and a decrease in the remaining States. Compared with the corresponding quarter (January to March) of 1916, there was an increase in unemployment in all the States except Western Australia and Tasmania.

3. Unemployment in Different Industries.—The following table shews the percentage unemployed in several of the fourteen industrial groups. Information as to the classification of these groups is given on

page 334 of Labour Report No. 7. For those industries in which employment is either unusually stable, or, on the other hand, exceptionally casual, information as to unemployment cannot ordinarily be obtained from trade unions. Hence, certain industries such as railways, shipping, pastoral, agricultural, etc., and domestic, hotels, etc., are insufficiently represented in the returns. Particulars are not, therefore, shewn separately for these groups, such returns as are available being included in the last group, "Other and Miscellaneous." For purposes of comparison particulars are included in the table as to the percentage unemployed in the quarter immediately preceding (last quarter of 1916), and the corresponding quarter (first quarter of 1916). The increase or decrease in the percentages for the current quarter as compared with each of these preceding quarters, is also given.

Unemployment in different Industries for the Quarter ending 31st March, 1917.

INDUSTRIAL GROUP.	Number Reporting.		Unemployed.		Percentage Returned as Unemployed:—		Increase(+) or Decrease(−) in Percentage compared with—	
	Unions.	Members.	Number.	Percentage.	4th Quarter 1916.	1st Quarter 1916.	4th Quarter 1916.	1st Quarter 1916.
I.—Wood, Furniture, etc. . .	18	12,871	550	4.3	4.2	6.0	+0.1	— 1.7
II.—Engineering, Metal Works, etc. . .	59	40,732	3,451	8.5	7.2	3.5	+1.3	+ 5.0
III.—Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. . .	56	22,606	1,114	4.9	7.6	6.4	—2.7	— 1.5
IV.—Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. . .	23	25,443	1,147	4.5	2.9	4.4	+1.6	+ 0.1
V.—Books, Printing, etc. . .	26	9,862	461	4.7	3.0	3.0	+1.7	+ 1.7
VI.—Other Manufacturing . .	71	25,131	1,526	6.1	6.4	6.0	—0.3	+ 0.1
VII.—Building . .	53	31,689	3,781	11.9	10.6	9.3	+1.3	+ 2.6
VIII.—Mining, Quarrying, etc. . .	24	30,742	1,617	5.3	5.1	10.4	+0.2	— 5.1
X.—Other Land Transport . .	11	7,760	450	5.8	2.9	2.3	+2.9	+ 3.5
IX., XI., XII., XIII. and XIV.— Other and Miscellaneous . .	114	84,013	7,795	9.3	7.9	5.2	+1.4	+ 4.1
ALL GROUPS	455	290,849	21,892	7.5	6.7	5.9	+0.8	+ 1.6

NOTE.—As to the general limitations of the figures given in this table, see remarks on page 9.

The percentage of unemployment was greater than for the immediately preceding quarter in all the groups except Groups III. (Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc.), and VI. (Other Manufacturing). The increase was greatest in Group X. (Other Land Transport), while in the case of the two groups which shew decreases, the decrease was greatest in Group III. (Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc.). Compared with the corresponding quarter (January to March) of 1916, all the groups with the exception of I. (Wood, Furniture, etc.), III. (Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc.), and VIII. (Mining, Quarrying, etc.), shew increases. The greatest increases in unemployment compared with a year ago occurred in engineering and in land transport other than the railway and tramway services.

4. **Causes of Unemployment.**—Particulars as to causes of unemployment, classified under three main heads, are available for the first quarter of the current year for unions having a membership of 286,594. The

following table shews that of a total number of 21,654 out of work, 19,378 were unemployed through lack of work ; 1805 through sickness and accident ; and 471 through other causes (excluding persons on strike or locked out) :—

Unemployment according to Causes for the various Industries, States, and Commonwealth, Quarter ended 31st March, 1917.

PARTICULARS.	Mem- bers.	Lack of Work.		Sickness and Accident.		Other Causes.		TOTAL.	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO INDUSTRIAL GROUPS.									
I.—Wood, Furniture, etc.	12,871	435	3.4	114	0.9	1	..	550	4.3
II.—Engineering, Metal Works, etc. ..	40,732	2,959	7.3	283	0.7	209	0.5	3,451	8.5
III.—Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. ..	22,606	1,001	4.4	88	0.4	25	0.1	1,114	4.9
IV.—Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. ..	25,443	1,122	4.4	23	0.1	2	..	1,147	4.5
V.—Books, Printing, etc.	9,862	379	3.8	45	0.5	37	0.4	461	4.7
VI.—Other Manufacturing	23,681	1,176	5.0	171	0.7	64	0.3	1,411	6.0
VII.—Building	31,689	3,569	11.2	155	0.5	57	0.2	3,781	11.9
VIII.—Mining, Quarrying, etc.	30,742	950	3.1	641	2.1	26	0.1	1,617	5.3
X.—Other Land Transport	7,760	379	4.9	64	0.8	7	0.1	450	5.8
IX., XI., XII., XIII., and XIV.—Other and Miscellaneous	81,208	7,408	9.0	321	0.3	43	0.1	7,672	9.4
ALL GROUPS	286,594	19,378	6.8	1,805	0.6	471	0.2	21,654	7.6
CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO STATES.									
New South Wales	126,536	7,226	5.7	783	0.6	226	0.2	8,235	6.5
Victoria	80,801	6,692	8.2	527	0.7	150	0.1	7,369	9.1
Queensland	36,452	3,775	10.4	66	0.2	22	..	3,863	10.6
South Australia	19,213	810	4.2	144	0.7	31	0.2	985	5.1
Western Australia	18,304	740	4.0	234	1.3	37	0.2	1,011	5.5
Tasmania	5,288	135	2.6	51	1.0	5	..	191	3.6
COMMONWEALTH	286,594	19,378	6.8	1,805	0.6	471	0.2	21,654	7.6

The first part of the above table shews the number unemployed owing to the causes specified, classified according to industries ; the second, classified according to States. The percentage of unemployment due to "lack of work" was 6.8, compared with 5.5 in the preceding quarter. The percentage due to sickness and accident was 0.6, compared with 0.8 in the preceding quarter, and that due to other causes was 0.2, compared with 0.5 in the preceding quarter. Of the total amount of unemployment, 89.5 per cent. was due to "lack of work," 8.3 per cent. to "sickness and accident," and 2.2 per cent. to "other causes." The percentage unemployed through sickness and accident in mining, quarrying, etc., is more than double the average for all groups.

SECTION III.—RETAIL PRICES, HOUSE RENT, AND PURCHASING-POWER OF MONEY.

1. **General.**—In Report No. 7 of the Labour and Industrial Branch of this Bureau, issued in June last, particulars were given of the commodities included, and the methods adopted for the computation of index-numbers, in the investigations made as to variations in retail prices and house rent, and in the purchasing-power of money. Index-numbers were given on pages 358 and 359 of that Report, shewing variations, in the six capital towns, in the cost of the items included, for the years 1901 to 1916 inclusive. In order to shew the movements in the various main groups of expenditure that make up the whole “composite unit,” the commodities are divided into three groups, viz.:—Groceries, dairy produce and meat, and tables were given shewing the index-numbers for each group and for house rent separately. In addition index-numbers were given shewing variations in the three groups of food and groceries combined, and in all groups combined (food, groceries and house rent). On pages 371 to 376 of the same Report index-numbers were given for each of thirty of the principal towns in the Commonwealth, for food and groceries (46 commodities) and house rent separately, and for food, groceries and house rent combined. The index-numbers for food and groceries, house rent, and for food, groceries and house rent combined were given for quarterly and yearly periods of the years 1912 to 1916 inclusive. In each of these tables the base to which the index-numbers were computed was the weighted average expenditure upon the items included in the group or combination of groups, in the six capital towns for the year 1911. On pages 31 and 32 of Report No. 6 the reasons for this change in the selection of the base period were stated, and it was shewn that there can be no valid objection to the change, and that the adoption of the same base, both for the tables relating to capital towns and to the thirty towns, will avoid the danger of popular errors arising from a misconception of the limitations of comparisons of tables computed to different bases. It will therefore be necessary to remember that, if it be desired to compare the index-numbers given hereinafter for the thirty towns with those for any period prior to 1916, comparison should be made with those given in Reports No. 6 and No. 7, and not with those given in the quarterly Labour Bulletins issued prior to May, 1916. The change of the base of course involves this.

During the first quarter of 1917 the purchasing-power-of-money index-number for the thirty towns for which particulars are collected shews practically no change since the preceding quarter (October to December, 1916), the index-number for the corresponding quarter (January to March) of 1916 being 1325. The following table furnishes quarterly comparisons for the whole thirty towns since the beginning of the year 1912.

Purchasing-Power of Money.—Quarterly Index-Numbers.—Average for Thirty Towns, 1912 to 1917.

Particulars.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.	Whole Year.
1912 ..	1,023	1,068	1,120	1,110	1,080
1913 ..	1,078	1,093	1,078	1,071	1,080
1914 ..	1,090	1,127	1,124	1,113	1,113
1915 ..	1,151	1,226	1,333	1,310	1,255
1916 ..	1,325	1,310	1,294	1,276	1,301
1917 ..	1,279				

NOTE.—Basis of table: the weighted average aggregate expenditure for the six capital towns in 1911 equals 1000. See remarks on page 12 with reference to change of base period.

The index-number for the quarter under review is practically the same as that for the preceding quarter. Particulars of the purchasing-power-of-money index-numbers in each State for the years 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915 and 1916, as well as for the first and fourth quarters of 1916, and the first quarter of 1917, are shewn in the following table. The weighted average aggregate expenditure for the six capital towns in 1911 is taken as base (= 1000), and the index-numbers are therefore comparable in all respects, that is to say, they shew not only the variations from year to year in each State, but they also furnish comparisons as to the relative cost in the different States, either in any given year or between one year and another, and one State and another :—

**Purchasing-Power of Money.—Index-Numbers for each State and Commonwealth,†
January to March, 1917.**

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
Average for 1912 ..	1,125	1,033	981	1,126	1,191	1,012	1,080
„ 1913 ..	1,155	1,023	959	1,096	1,158	1,007	1,080
„ 1914 ..	1,179	1,073	988	1,122	1,175	1,041	1,113
„ 1915 ..	1,295	1,249	1,155	1,243	1,261	1,199	1,255
„ 1916 ..	1,370	1,279	1,182	1,275	1,297	1,251	1,301
Quarter—							
Jan. to March, 1916	1,389	1,306	1,252	1,283	1,280	1,281	1,325
Oct. to Dec., 1916	1,354	1,249	1,135	1,249	1,282	1,217	1,276
Jan. to March, 1917	1,361	1,249	1,137	1,253	1,269	1,236	1,279

† Weighted average in each State for the five towns specified in paragraph 3 hereinafter.

NOTE.—Basis of table: weighted average expenditure in six capital towns for 1911 equals 1000. See remarks on page 12 with reference to change of base period.

2. Variations in Retail Prices and House Rent Index-Numbers, 1912 to 1917 (First Quarter).—The table in the preceding paragraph shews the aggregate effect on the purchasing-power-of-money index-numbers for each State, of variations in prices of commodities and house rent.

In order to shew the movements in the various main groups of expenditure that make up the whole "composite unit," the commodities are divided into three groups, viz., groceries, dairy produce and meat, and the following table shews the index-number for each group and house rent separately for the first quarter of 1917, compared with the quarter immediately preceding, the corresponding quarter of 1916, and with the average for the whole of the years 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, and 1916.

Purchasing-Power of Money.—Index-Numbers for each State, January to March, 1917. Weighted Average Expenditure in each Group for Six Capital Towns in 1911 as Base (= 1000).*

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth
I.—GROCERIES.							
Average for 1912 ..	1,160	1,064	1,231	1,141	1,274	1,154	1,140
" 1913 ..	1,113	960	1,137	1,045	1,171	1,046	1,058
" 1914 ..	1,116	997	1,116	1,064	1,209	1,058	1,074
" 1915 ..	1,289	1,222	1,379	1,315	1,439	1,257	1,287
" 1916 ..	1,334	1,211	1,365	1,283	1,419	1,253	1,293
Quarter—							
Jan. to March, 1916	1,418	1,303	1,447	1,356	1,530	1,337	1,380
Oct. to Dec., 1916	1,312	1,185	1,300	1,240	1,362	1,214	1,260
Jan. to March, 1917	1,298	1,172	1,288	1,189	1,317	1,261	1,233

II.—DAIRY PRODUCE.

Average for 1912 ..	1,105	1,065	1,055	1,191	1,375	1,081	1,114
" 1913 ..	1,103	1,007	996	1,158	1,321	1,076	1,080
" 1914 ..	1,120	1,063	997	1,188	1,311	1,136	1,110
" 1915 ..	1,228	1,341	1,286	1,357	1,534	1,405	1,316
" 1916 ..	1,299	1,321	1,303	1,275	1,495	1,313	1,319
Quarter—							
Jan. to March, 1916	1,278	1,295	1,346	1,296	1,490	1,263	1,307
Oct. to Dec., 1916	1,251	1,217	1,263	1,178	1,439	1,240	1,246
Jan. to March, 1917	1,305	1,245	1,269	1,272	1,454	1,259	1,286

III.—MEAT.

Average for 1912 ..	1,121	1,144	1,009	1,132	1,710	1,336	1,169
" 1913 ..	1,222	1,165	996	1,204	1,666	1,403	1,217
" 1914 ..	1,291	1,284	1,189	1,493	1,754	1,497	1,340
" 1915 ..	1,783	1,822	1,543	1,928	1,792	1,831	1,791
" 1916 ..	2,113	2,044	1,758	2,253	2,052	2,256	2,071
Quarter—							
Jan. to March, 1916	2,141	2,089	2,028	2,177	1,754	2,372	2,097
Oct. to Dec., 1916	2,086	1,991	1,590	2,299	2,122	2,169	2,028
Jan. to March, 1917	2,103	1,942	1,598	2,222	2,072	2,177	2,013

* See footnote to table on next page.

Purchasing-Power of Money.—Index-Numbers for each State, January to March, 1917. Weighted Average Expenditure in each Group for Six Capital Towns in 1911 as Base (= 1000)*—continued.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
IV.—HOUSE RENT.†							
Average for 1912 ..	1,112	957	777	1,087	866	769	994
„ 1913 ..	1,179	1,017	814	1,063	892	804	1,042
„ 1914 ..	1,201	1,048	826	992	879	820	1,054
„ 1915 ..	1,140	1,013	808	891	834	839	1,006
„ 1916 ..	1,140	1,017	796	899	851	843	1,008
Quarter—							
Jan. to March, 1916	1,131	1,016	793	892	852	838	1,004
Oct. to Dec., 1916	1,145	1,022	804	905	849	849	1,014
Jan. to March, 1917	1,144	1,037	810	921	851	843	1,021

* See remarks on p. 12 with reference to change of base period. † See remarks on page 16, paragraph iv.

(i.) *Groceries.* During the quarter under review the average cost of the commodities included in this group was lower than in the immediately preceding quarter in all the States except Tasmania. The decrease was greatest in South Australia and least in Queensland. The weighted average index-number for the 30 towns as a whole was 2.1 per cent. lower in the first quarter of the current year than in the last quarter of 1916. Compared with the corresponding quarter (January to March) of 1916, the average cost of the commodities in this group was lower in all the States. The decrease was greatest in Western Australia, and least in Tasmania. The weighted average index-number for the Commonwealth shews a decrease of 10.7 per cent. compared with the corresponding quarter of last year.

(ii.) *Dairy Produce.*—The average cost of the commodities included in this group was higher than during the fourth quarter of 1916 in all the States. The increase was greatest in South Australia, and least in Queensland, and the weighted average index-number for the 30 towns shews an increase of 3.2 per cent. Compared with the corresponding quarter (January to March) of 1916, the index-numbers shew that there was a decrease in all the States except New South Wales. The weighted average cost of the commodities in this group in the 30 towns considered as a whole was 1.6 per cent. lower in the first quarter of 1917 than in the corresponding period of 1916.

(iii.) *Meat.*—The average cost of the cuts and joints included in this group was greater in the first quarter of this year than in the last quarter of the preceding year in New South Wales, Queensland and Tasmania, and lower in the remaining States. The weighted average index-number for the Commonwealth indicates that there has been a decrease of 0.7 per cent. during this period. Compared with the corresponding quarter (January to March) of 1916, there was an increase of 2.1 per cent. in South Australia, and 18.1 per cent. in Western Australia. The remaining States

shews decreases : 21.2 per cent. in Queensland, 8.2 per cent. in Tasmania, 7.0 per cent. in Victoria, and 1.8 per cent. in New South Wales. As a result of these variations the index-number for the Commonwealth shews a decrease of 4.0 per cent.

(iv.) *House Rent*.—During the quarter under review the index-numbers for house rent shew a slight decrease in New South Wales and Tasmania, and an increase in the remaining States, when compared with the immediately preceding quarter. Compared with the corresponding quarter of last year there has been a slight decrease in Western Australia, and an increase in the remaining States. The increase was greatest in South Australia (3.3 per cent.), followed in the order named by Victoria and Queensland (2.1 per cent.), Tasmania (1.2 per cent.), and New South Wales (1.1 per cent.). The weighted average index-number for the Commonwealth is 0.7 per cent. higher than in the last quarter, and 1.7 per cent. higher than in the first quarter of 1916.

When making comparisons as to variations in house rent, reference should be made to paragraphs in previous issues of this Bulletin with regard to the computation of house rents in Broken Hill and Port Pirie during the years 1914, 1915 and 1916.

3. Variations in Purchasing-power of Money in each of Thirty Towns, 1912 to 1917 (First Quarter). In the following table index-numbers are given for the first quarter of 1917, the preceding quarter (October to December, 1916), and the corresponding quarter (January to March), of 1916. The average index-numbers for the whole of the years 1912, 1914, 1915 and 1916 are included for comparative purposes. The basis of the table is the weighted average expenditure in the six capital towns for 1911. It should be observed that these index-numbers are not comparable with those in similar tables referring to the 30 towns given in Labour Bulletins Nos. 1 to 12. If it be desired to ascertain the corresponding index-numbers for any other period than those specified in the table, reference should be made to the tables giving purchasing power-of-money index-numbers on pages 375 and 376 of Labour Report No. 7, published in June last.

The index-numbers for the first quarter of 1917 shew that there has been no great variation in the cost of food, groceries and house rent combined when compared with the fourth quarter of 1916. In some towns the cost is slightly higher and in others slightly lower. The aggregate effect of these variations is that taking the 30 towns as a whole, there has been an increase of only 0.2 per cent. The decrease in the cost of groceries and meat has practically counterbalanced the increase in dairy produce and house rent. When compared with the corresponding quarter (January to March) of 1916, it will be seen that the weighted average index-number for the five towns, is lower in all the States. The index-number for the Commonwealth shews that there has been a decrease of 3.5 per cent. in the combined cost of food, groceries and house rent compared with the corresponding period a year ago. This decrease is generally due to a substantial decrease in the cost of groceries and a smaller decrease in the case of meat and dairy produce. House rent, on the other hand, shews a slight increase.

Purchasing-Power-of-Money Index-Numbers (Food, Groceries, and House Rent), for each of Thirty Towns, 1912 to 1917 (1st Quarter), with Weighted Average for Six Capital Towns in 1911 as Base (= 1000).†

Particulars.	1912.	1914.	1915.	1916.			1917.
	Whole Year	Whole Year.	Whole Year.	Whole Year.	1st Qtr., (Jan. to March).	4th Qtr. (Oct. to Dec.).	1st Qtr. (Jan. to March).
N. S. WALES—							
Sydney ..	1,148	1,206	1,323	1,394	1,419	1,374	1,381
Newcastle ..	955	994	1,147	1,208	1,223	1,197	1,211
Broken Hill§ ..	1,080	1,068	1,087	1,282	1,212	1,327	1,322
Goulburn ..	1,042	1,130	1,274	1,350	1,336	1,341	1,352
Bathurst ..	919	987	1,104	1,178	1,172	1,175	1,178
*Weighted Aver.	1,125	1,179	1,295	1,370	1,389	1,354	1,361
VICTORIA—							
Melbourne ..	1,055	1,105	1,277	1,309	1,337	1,280	1,280
Ballarat ..	914	904	1,111	1,126	1,148	1,092	1,083
Bendigo ..	926	922	1,110	1,118	1,151	1,092	1,077
Geelong ..	996	1,012	1,182	1,233	1,254	1,195	1,213
Warrnambool..	935	959	1,157	1,185	1,203	1,153	1,159
*Weighted Aver.	1,033	1,073	1,249	1,279	1,306	1,249	1,249
QUEENSLAND—							
Brisbane ..	979	997	1,162	1,188	1,259	1,140	1,146
Toowoomba ..	977	950	1,133	1,133	1,216	1,083	1,065
Rockhampton	962	988	1,154	1,216	1,289	1,160	1,138
Charters Towers	1,008	988	1,151	1,182	1,227	1,147	1,163
Warwick ..	1,004	912	1,067	1,102	1,156	1,077	1,068
*Weighted Aver.	981	988	1,155	1,182	1,252	1,135	1,137
S. AUSTRALIA—							
Adelaide ..	1,157	1,143	1,259	1,285	1,295	1,257	1,261
Kadina, Moonta Walleroo	917	960	1,139	1,204	1,205	1,188	1,200
Port Pirie§ ..	1,004	1,055	1,172	1,261	1,253	1,251	1,269
Mt. Gambier ..	874	923	1,109	1,165	1,171	1,134	1,128
Petersburg ..	1,014	1,126	1,234	1,251	1,253	1,231	1,231
*Weighted Aver.	1,126	1,122	1,243	1,275	1,283	1,249	1,253
W. AUSTRALIA—							
Perth ..	1,154	1,143	1,222	1,266	1,243	1,252	1,242
Kalgoorlie and Boulder ..	1,334	1,291	1,398	1,418	1,418	1,402	1,377
Mid. Junction & Guildford ..	1,123	1,104	1,204	1,226	1,206	1,219	1,191
Bunbury ..	1,104	1,111	1,194	1,214	1,182	1,206	1,194
Geraldton ..	1,255	1,315	1,386	1,372	1,390	1,335	1,342
*Weighted Aver.	1,191	1,175	1,261	1,297	1,280	1,282	1,269
TASMANIA—							
Hobart ..	1,042	1,090	1,233	1,278	1,317	1,242	1,268
Launceston ..	999	1,014	1,190	1,253	1,276	1,224	1,245
Zeehan ..	952	898	1,048	1,095	1,116	1,062	1,066
Beaconsfield ..	827	813	991	1,035	1,045	1,005	1,004
Queenstown ..	988	1,021	1,208	1,260	1,276	1,224	1,198
*Weighted Aver.	1,012	1,041	1,199	1,251	1,281	1,217	1,236
†Weighted Aver. for C'wealth	1,080	1,113	1,255	1,301	1,325	1,276	1,279

* Average for the five towns. † Average for thirty towns. ‡ See remarks on page 12 with reference to change of base period. § See remarks on page 16, paragraph (iv.) *re* house rent.

NOTE.—Index-numbers for the year 1913 are given in Labour Bulletin No. 15, p. 232.

4. **Relative cost of Food, Groceries, and House Rent in Different Towns, January to March, 1917.**—The index-numbers in the table given in the preceding sub-section shew not only the variation from period to period in the several towns, but also shew the relative cost of the items of food, groceries, and house rent included, as between one town and another or one State and another at any of the periods specified. Thus it may be seen that in the first quarter of 1917 (last column) the weighted average relative cost of the "composite unit" for the different States was greatest in New South Wales, and least in Queensland. Comparing individual towns, it will be seen that the cost was greatest in Sydney, and least in Beaconsfield. Sydney was 8.0 per cent. above, and Beaconsfield 21.5 per cent. below, the weighted average cost for all towns. In Labour Report No. 7, on page 378, a table is given shewing for the year 1916 the relative cost in each of the thirty towns of food and groceries, of housing accommodation for houses of different sizes, and of the combined expenditure upon food, groceries and housing accommodation.

5. **Capital Towns only. Purchasing-Power-of-Money Index-Numbers, 1911 to 1917.**—The tables given in the preceding sub-sections of this section refer to the thirty towns of the Commonwealth for which particulars have been collected since the beginning of 1912. In previous reports information has, however, been furnished for the six capital towns back to 1901. In order to maintain the continuity of the results given in these reports, the following particulars are given for the capital towns only. As in the former tables in this section, the weighted average cost in 1911 for the six capital towns considered as a whole is taken as base (=1000). It should be observed that the index-numbers in the last part of the table are identifiable and comparable with those given on page 17, and are in fact the same for the towns and periods specified in both tables.

Retail Prices, House Rent and Purchasing-Power-of-Money Index-Numbers in each Capital Town, 1911 to 1917,† with Weighted Average Expenditure for the whole of the Six Capital Towns in the Year 1911 as Base (=1000)*.

Particulars.	1911.	1912.	1914.	1915.	1916.			1917.
					Whole Year.	1st Qtr. (Jan. to March).	4th Qtr. (Oct. to Dec.).	1st Qtr., (Jan. to March).

FOOD AND GROCERIES.

Sydney	989	1,124	1,156	1,396	1,520	1,566	1,485	1,499
Melbourne	935	1,082	1,091	1,411	1,462	1,510	1,407	1,395
Brisbane	1,018	1,102	1,078	1,373	1,426	1,551	1,341	1,349
Adelaide	1,020	1,154	1,215	1,487	1,532	1,550	1,482	1,476
Perth	1,346	1,345	1,302	1,483	1,542	1,504	1,520	1,500
Hobart	1,058	1,190	1,212	1,445	1,522	1,593	1,452	1,493
Weighted Average	1,000†	1,129	1,144	1,416	1,495	1,540	1,446	1,448

* See Footnote to table on next page.

Retail Prices, House Rent and Purchasing-Power-of-Money Index-Numbers in each Capital Town, 1911 to 1917,† with Weighted Average Expenditure for the whole of the Six Capital Towns in the Year 1911 as Base (= 1000)*—cont.

Particulars.	1911.	1912.	1914.	1915.	1916.			1917.
					Whole Year.	1st Qtr. (Jan. to March).	4th Qtr. (Oct. to Dec.).	1st Qtr. (Jan. to March).

RENT.

Sydney	1,090	1,183	1,279	1,220	1,212	1,208	1,214	1,213
Melbourne	970	1,016	1,126	1,085	1,089	1,088	1,097	1,115
Brisbane	767	804	882	859	847	841	853	855
Adelaide	1,112	1,160	1,040	932	931	928	914	952
Perth	810	880	914	848	869	870	868	872
Hobart	805	829	914	928	928	920	940	945
Weighted Average	1,000†	1,063	1,135	1,081	1,081	1,077	1,083	1,092

GROCERIES, FOOD, AND RENT.

Sydney	1,031	1,148	1,206	1,323	1,394	1,419	1,374	1,381
Melbourne	950	1,055	1,105	1,277	1,309	1,337	1,280	1,280
Brisbane	915	979	997	1,162	1,188	1,259	1,140	1,146
Adelaide	1,058	1,157	1,143	1,259	1,285	1,295	1,257	1,261
Perth	1,126	1,154	1,143	1,222	1,266	1,243	1,252	1,242
Hobart	954	1,042	1,090	1,233	1,278	1,317	1,242	1,268
Weighted Average	1,000†	1,101	1,140	1,278	1,324	1,350	1,300	1,302

* For corresponding figures for previous years see Report No. 7 (pp. 358 and 359) of Labour and Industrial Branch. † Basis of Table. See Report No. 6, p. 25. ‡ Index-numbers for the year 1913 are given on pp. 233 and 234 of Labour Bulletin No. 15.

NOTE.—In each section of the above table the figures are comparable in all respects. That is to say, they shew not only the increase or decrease in the cost of the items included in each town separately, but also the relative cost as between the several towns.

The weighted average result for the six capital towns taken together shews that there was little variation in price indexes compared with the immediately preceding quarter. Compared with the corresponding quarter (January to March) of 1916, the weighted average index-number for food and groceries shews a *decrease* of 6.0 per cent., while the index-number for house rent shews an *increase* of 1.4 per cent. The index-number for food, groceries and house-rent combined shews a decrease of 3.6 per cent. The increase in the cost of food, groceries, and house rent combined, since 1911, has been greatest in Melbourne (34.7 per cent.), followed in the order named by Sydney (33.9 per cent.), Hobart (32.9 per cent.), Brisbane (25.2 per cent.), Adelaide (19.2 per cent.), and Perth (10.2 per cent.).

6. Purchasing-Power of Money.—In the following table the average cost for the six capital towns in the year 1911 has again been taken as base. This base has been taken as equal to 20s. instead of 1000 as in the former tables. The figures shew the variations in purchasing-power of money from year to year in each town separately (in the vertical lines), and the relative cost in the several towns in each year (in the horizontal lines). It may be seen, for instance, that 20s. 7d. in Sydney in 1911 was equivalent to 18s. 4d. in Brisbane, or 19s. 1d. in Hobart; or that 25s. 7d. in Melbourne for the first quarter of 1917 was equivalent to 15s. 5d. in Brisbane in 1901, or 22s. 6d. in Perth in 1913.

Purchasing-Power of Money.—Amounts necessary on the Average in each Year from 1901 to 1917 to purchase in each Capital Town what would have cost on the Average £1 in 1911 in the Australian Capitals regarded as a whole.*

Year,			Sydney.	Melb'rne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth.	Hobart.	Weighted Average of 6 Capital Towns
			s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1901	..	..	17 10	17 5	15 5	17 3	20 6	17 5	17 7
1902	..	..	19 7	18 1	16 0	17 3	21 7	17 10	18 7
1903	..	..	19 2	17 7	15 9	16 9	21 8	17 11	18 2
1904	..	..	17 5	17 1	14 8	16 3	20 10	17 1	17 2
1905	..	..	18 9	17 7	15 5	17 6	20 11	17 9	18 0
1906	..	..	18 8	17 7	15 7	17 10	20 5	18 0	18 0
1907	..	..	18 6	17 6	15 11	17 11	19 9	17 9	17 11
1908	..	..	19 9	18 6	17 1	19 1	20 0	18 5	19 0
1909	..	..	19 9	18 1	17 0	19 10	19 9	19 0	19 0
1910	..	..	19 11	18 10	17 6	20 2	20 6	19 0	19 5
1911	..	..	20 7	19 0	18 4	21 2	22 6	19 1	20 0†
1912	..	..	22 11	21 1	19 7	23 2	23 1	20 10	22 0
1913	..	..	23 7	21 0	19 5	22 5	22 6	21 1	22 1
1914	..	..	24 1	22 1	19 11	22 10	22 10	21 10	22 10
1915	..	..	26 6	25 6	23 3	25 2	24 5	24 8	25 7
1916	..	..	27 10	26 2	23 9	25 8	25 4	25 7	26 6
1912	1st Quarter		21 4	19 9	19 6	22 6	22 4	19 7	20 9
	2nd	..	22 5	20 10	19 6	23 2	23 8	20 2	21 9
	3rd	..	24 1	22 1	19 8	23 8	23 6	21 5	22 11
	4th	..	23 10	21 8	19 8	23 3	22 10	22 2	22 7
1913	1st	..	23 5	21 0	19 1	22 8	22 6	21 1	22 0
	2nd	..	23 10	21 2	19 7	22 11	22 11	21 3	22 4
	3rd	..	23 6	21 1	19 4	22 4	22 4	21 1	22 1
	4th	..	23 6	20 10	19 6	21 10	22 5	20 10	21 11
1914	1st	..	24 0	21 4	19 7	22 4	22 3	21 1	22 4
	2nd	..	24 3	22 7	19 9	23 6	22 10	22 0	23 1
	3rd	..	24 2	22 5	20 1	23 2	23 3	21 10	23 0
	4th	..	24 1	22 1	20 4	22 5	23 0	22 3	22 10
1915	1st	..	24 7	22 11	21 1	23 3	23 10	22 10	23 6
	2nd	..	25 2	25 3	22 8	25 4	24 8	24 3	24 11
	3rd	..	28 1	27 6	24 2	26 6	25 1	25 10	27 2
	4th	..	28 0	26 5	25 1	25 8	24 1	25 9	26 8
1916	1st	..	28 4	26 9	25 2	25 11	24 10	26 4	27 0
	2nd	..	27 10	26 5	24 1	26 2	25 7	25 11	26 8
	3rd	..	27 9	26 0	22 11	25 7	25 9	25 2	26 4
	4th	..	27 6	25 7	22 10	25 2	25 1	24 10	26 0
1917	1st	..	27 7	25 7	22 11	25 3	24 10	25 4	26 0

* These results are based upon the regimen referred to on pp. 20-2 Labour Report No. 6.

† Basis of Table.

(i.) *Groceries and Food only*.—The following table has been computed in the same manner as that indicated above, but relates to *groceries and food* (46 items) only. The average expenditure for the six capital towns in 1911 has again been taken as the basis of the table (=20s.), and the figures are, of course, comparable throughout.

Purchasing-Power of Money.—Groceries and Food only.—Amount necessary on the Average in each Year from 1901 to 1917 to purchase in each Capital Town what would have cost on the Average £1 in 1911 in the Australian Capitals regarded as a whole.*

Year	Sydney.	Melb'ne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Weighted Average of 6 Capital Towns
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1901	18 4	19 4	19 4	20 7	23 8	20 3	19 4
1902	21 4	20 4	20 4	20 6	25 6	21 0	21 1
1903	20 7	19 6	19 9	19 8	25 8	21 1	20 4
1904	17 6	18 4	17 10	18 10	24 3	19 8	18 5
1905	19 5	19 1	18 11	19 10	25 2	20 7	19 8
1906	19 3	18 11	19 2	19 8	24 9	20 11	19 7
1907	18 9	18 6	18 11	19 0	23 11	20 2	19 1
1908	20 7	19 11	20 6	20 2	24 6	21 1	20 7
1909	20 3	19 0	19 8	20 6	24 3	21 10	20 1
1910	20 0	19 2	20 0	20 0	25 0	21 6	20 1
1911	19 9	18 8	20 4	20 5	26 11	21 2	20 0†
1912	22 6	21 8	22 0	23 1	26 11	23 10	22 6
1913	22 8	20 6	20 10	22 5	25 4	23 3	21 11
1914	23 1	21 10	21 7	24 4	26 0	24 3	22 11
1915	27 11	28 3	27 6	29 9	29 8	28 11	28 4
1916	30 5	29 3	28 6	30 8	30 10	30 5	29 11
1912 { 1st Q't'r	20 9	19 9	21 11	22 0	26 0	21 10	21 0
2nd "	21 10	21 5	21 11	22 11	28 2	22 11	22 3
3rd "	23 11	23 2	22 1	23 10	27 4	24 8	23 9
4th "	23 6	22 3	22 3	23 6	26 1	25 9	23 2
1913 { 1st "	22 9	20 9	20 9	22 5	25 6	23 2	22 0
2nd "	23 2	20 10	21 2	22 11	26 0	23 9	22 4
3rd "	22 7	20 5	20 10	22 4	25 0	23 5	21 10
4th "	22 1	20 0	20 8	21 10	24 11	22 9	21 5
1914 { 1st "	23 0	20 7	20 11	22 11	24 11	23 3	22 1
2nd "	23 3	22 4	21 2	25 0	25 11	24 7	23 2
3rd "	23 1	22 0	21 8	24 7	26 9	24 3	23 0
4th "	23 1	22 4	22 6	24 8	26 7	24 10	23 3
1915 { 1st "	24 7	23 9	23 11	26 4	28 5	25 10	24 8
2nd "	25 9	27 8	26 4	30 2	30 2	28 3	27 3
3rd "	30 9	31 8	29 0	32 0	30 11	30 10	31 1
4th "	30 7	29 10	30 8	30 6	29 2	30 8	30 3
1916 { 1st "	31 4	30 2	31 0	31 0	30 1	31 10	30 10
2nd "	30 4	29 8	29 1	31 6	31 3	31 1	30 2
3rd "	30 2	29 0	27 1	30 5	31 7	29 9	29 7
4th "	29 8	28 2	26 10	29 8	30 5	29 1	28 11
1917 1st "	30 0	27 11	27 0	29 6	30 0	29 10	28 11

* These results are based upon the regimen referred to on pp. 20-2 Labour Report No. 6.

† Basis of Table.

(ii) *House Rent only*.—The following table gives similar particulars for *house rent only*, the average for the six capital towns in 1911 being again taken as the basis of the table (= 20s.) :—

Purchasing-Power of Money.—House Rent.—Amount payable on the Average in each Year from 1901 to 1917 for House Rent in each Capital Town, compared with a Rent of £1 in 1911 in the Australian Capitals regarded as a whole.

Year.	Sydney.	Melb'ne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Weighted Average of 6 Capital Towns
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1901	17 3	14 8	9 9	12 7	16 0	13 4	15 1
1902	17 3	14 11	9 10	12 7	15 11	13 5	15 2
1903	17 4	14 11	10 1	12 7	16 0	13 6	15 3
1904	17 5	15 3	10 2	12 7	16 0	13 6	15 4
1905	17 10	15 5	10 5	14 0	14 9	13 7	15 8
1906	17 11	15 8	10 6	15 3	14 4	13 9	15 11
1907	18 4	16 1	11 6	16 3	13 8	14 2	16 4
1908	18 7	16 7	12 4	17 5	13 7	14 7	16 10
1909	19 2	16 10	13 3	18 10	13 4	15 0	17 5
1910	19 10	18 4	14 0	20 4	13 11	15 6	18 5
1911	21 10	19 5	15 4	22 3	16 3	16 1	20 0*
1912	23 8	20 4	16 1	23 2	17 7	16 7	21 3
1913	24 11	21 10	17 3	22 6	18 7	17 10	22 4
1914	25 7	22 6	17 8	20 10	18 3	18 3	22 8
1915	24 5	21 8	17 2	18 8	17 0	18 7	21 7
1916	24 3	21 9	17 0	18 7	17 4	18 7	21 7
1912 { 1st Qtr	22 4	19 8	16 0	23 3	17 0	16 3	20 6
2nd "	23 4	20 0	16 1	23 5	17 2	16 4	21 1
3rd "	24 7	20 7	16 2	23 5	18 0	16 10	21 10
4th "	24 4	20 11	16 0	22 11	18 3	16 11	21 7
1913 { 1st "	24 5	21 4	16 10	22 11	18 3	18 0	22 0
2nd "	24 10	21 9	17 2	22 11	18 6	17 9	22 4
3rd "	24 11	22 0	17 3	22 3	18 7	17 8	22 5
4th "	25 6	22 1	17 10	21 10	18 11	18 0	22 8
1914 { 1st "	25 6	22 5	17 8	21 6	18 5	18 1	22 8
2nd "	25 9	22 10	17 10	21 5	18 5	18 3	23 0
3rd "	25 8	22 11	17 10	21 1	18 4	18 5	22 11
4th "	25 5	21 10	17 4	19 3	17 11	18 6	22 2
1915 { 1st "	24 7	21 10	17 1	18 10	17 5	18 6	21 9
2nd "	24 5	21 9	17 4	18 6	16 11	18 7	21 7
3rd "	24 5	21 7	17 2	18 7	16 10	18 7	21 7
4th "	24 3	21 7	17 2	18 7	16 10	18 7	21 6
1916 { 1st "	24 2	21 9	16 10	18 7	17 5	18 5	21 6
2nd "	24 3	21 8	16 11	18 7	17 5	18 6	21 7
3rd "	24 3	21 9	17 0	18 7	17 4	18 7	21 7
4th "	24 3	21 11	17 2	18 8	17 4	18 10	21 8
1917 1st "	24 3	22 3	17 1	19 1	17 5	18 11	21 10

* Basis of Table.

7. Monthly Fluctuations in Retail Prices of Food and Groceries, July, 1914, to July, 1917.—The following table has been prepared in order to shew the variations in retail prices of food and groceries since July, 1914, the last month prior to the outbreak of war. Particulars for each town are given in the form of index-numbers for food and groceries in each of the months specified. In the last column the percentage increase or decrease is shewn for each town in July, 1917, compared with July, 1914. It is necessary to observe that the index-numbers given in the following table are computed to the same base as those given in the preceding tables in this section, referring to food and groceries only, viz., the weighted average expenditure in the six capital towns for 1911 is made equal to 1000.

Retail Prices Index-numbers (Food and Groceries) for each of Thirty Towns for the Months specified, with Weighted Average for Six Capital Towns in 1911 as Base (= 1000).†

Particulars.	1914.	1916.					1917.				Per cent. in-crease from July, 1914, to July, 1917.
	July.	Apr.	May	June.	July.	Apr.	May.	June.	July.		
NEW SOUTH WALES—											
Sydney	1,153	1,512	1,509	1,512	1,526	1,513	1,499	1,507	1,510	31.0	
Newcastle	1,147	1,493	1,507	1,489	1,518	1,527	1,527	1,529	1,535	33.8	
Broken Hill	1,468	1,820	1,817	1,844	1,838	1,806	1,814	1,807	1,780	21.3	
Goulburn	1,183	1,543	1,550	1,542	1,549	1,507	1,476	1,458	1,440	21.7	
Bathurst	1,097	1,474	1,479	1,483	1,482	1,461	1,473	1,480	1,481	35.0	
•Weighted Average ..	1,165	1,523	1,522	1,524	1,538	1,525	1,514	1,520	1,522	30.6	
VICTORIA—											
Melbourne	1,106	1,484	1,485	1,479	1,483	1,410	1,409	1,418	1,426	28.9	
Ballarat	1,103	1,496	1,506	1,501	1,482	1,401	1,406	1,403	1,398	26.7	
Bendigo	1,107	1,475	1,482	1,480	1,431	1,403	1,432	1,440	1,438	29.9	
Geelong	1,089	1,500	1,514	1,506	1,497	1,446	1,432	1,434	1,428	31.1	
Warrnambool	1,087	1,475	1,493	1,484	1,484	1,431	1,436	1,438	1,437	32.2	
•Weighted Average ..	1,105	1,485	1,488	1,482	1,481	1,411	1,412	1,419	1,425	29.0	
QUEENSLAND—											
Brisbane	1,057	1,486	1,491	1,391	1,362	1,364	1,375	1,380	1,389	31.4	
Toowoomba	1,041	1,506	1,457	1,397	1,397	1,323	1,360	1,372	1,383	32.9	
Rockhampton	1,156	1,642	1,613	1,485	1,468	1,400	1,404	1,424	1,420	22.8	
Charters Towers ..	1,246	1,650	1,644	1,640	1,557	1,573	1,582	1,555	1,583	27.0	
Warwick	1,083	1,467	1,462	1,392	1,391	1,348	1,369	1,406	1,400	29.3	
•Weighted Average ..	1,082	1,517	1,512	1,422	1,393	1,381	1,394	1,399	1,408	30.1	
SOUTH AUSTRALIA—											
Adelaide	1,250	1,549	1,584	1,590	1,551	1,485	1,480	1,441	1,399	11.9	
Kadina, Moonta, Wallaroo ..	1,230	1,592	1,612	1,627	1,614	1,570	1,573	1,571	1,524	23.9	
Port Pirie	1,291	1,640	1,643	1,645	1,596	1,600	1,603	1,613	1,565	21.2	
Mt. Gambier	1,064	1,532	1,504	1,500	1,512	1,438	1,445	1,441	1,418	33.3	
Petersburg	1,340	1,621	1,622	1,647	1,619	1,573	1,584	1,602	1,537	14.7	
•Weighted Average ..	1,247	1,557	1,586	1,593	1,556	1,495	1,491	1,458	1,416	13.6	
WESTERN AUSTRALIA—											
Perth	1,340	1,513	1,550	1,630	1,614	1,535	1,586	1,543	1,510	12.7	
Kalgoorlie and Boulder ..	1,664	1,792	1,814	1,867	1,878	1,740	1,799	1,802	1,794	7.8	
Mid. June. & Guildford ..	1,354	1,529	1,534	1,608	1,656	1,552	1,598	1,566	1,512	11.7	
Bunbury	1,418	1,630	1,608	1,723	1,729	1,677	1,753	1,745	1,727	21.8	
Geraldton	1,445	1,663	1,675	1,691	1,694	1,621	1,630	1,642	1,622	12.2	
•Weighted Average ..	1,412	1,578	1,608	1,682	1,675	1,584	1,636	1,605	1,577	11.6	
TASMANIA—											
Hobart	1,211	1,588	1,551	1,525	1,512	1,476	1,471	1,497	1,500	23.9	
Launceston	1,144	1,564	1,538	1,514	1,501	1,485	1,478	1,497	1,495	30.7	
Zeehan	1,292	1,698	1,683	1,690	1,679	1,597	1,610	1,625	1,628	26.0	
Beaconsfield	1,230	1,674	1,647	1,634	1,628	1,580	1,587	1,615	1,610	30.9	
Queenstown	1,315	1,678	1,697	1,729	1,721	1,598	1,625	1,643	1,641	24.8	
•Weighted Average ..	1,201	1,595	1,566	1,547	1,535	1,496	1,494	1,517	1,518	26.4	
†Weighted Aver. for Cwth.	1,164	1,520	1,524	1,519	1,516	1,473	1,473	1,473	1,470	26.3	

* Average for the five towns. † Average for thirty towns.

‡ See remarks on page 31 of Labour Report No. 6 with reference to change of base period.

NOTE.—Corresponding index-numbers for the intervening months are given in Labour Report No. 6, pp. 33 to 35, and in Labour Bulletins 13, 14, 15 and 16.

8. Average Predominant Retail Prices and House Rents.—Particulars of retail prices of the commodities included in the investigations as to variations in the purchasing-power of money are collected monthly. The average prices in each of the capital towns for the months specified are given in the following tables. Corresponding particulars for the intervening months not specified, have appeared in previous issues of the Bulletin. Particulars of house rents are collected quarterly, and the weighted average rentals in the capital towns for the four quarters of the years 1915 and 1916, and the first quarter of 1917, are shewn in the table on page 30.

Average Predominant Retail Prices in each Capital Town on the 15th of each Month Specified from July 1914 to July 1917.

ARTICLE.	UNIT.	1914.	1915.				1916.				1917.					
		July.	April.	May.	June.	July.	April.	May	June.	July.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July
SYDNEY.																
Groceries, etc.—		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread	2lbs.	3.50	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Flour	25 „	33.29	44.67	45.17	45.33	46.11	43.00	42.83	42.67	42.17	40.40	40.40	40.75	40.90	40.90	40.90
Tea	lb.	16.71	16.33	16.78	17.44	18.22	18.89	18.89	18.67	18.67	18.80	18.80	18.80	18.80	18.80	18.80
Coffee	„	19.14	18.89	18.78	18.78	18.78	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50
Sugar	„	2.82	2.75	2.75	2.78	2.78	3.47	3.47	3.45	3.45	3.48	3.48	3.48	3.48	3.48	3.48
Rice	„	3.14	3.00	2.97	2.97	2.97	3.28	3.28	3.31	3.28	3.28	3.28	3.30	3.30	3.40	3.43
Sago	„	2.86	2.78	2.78	2.78	2.92	3.33	3.44	3.50	3.56	3.70	3.65	3.70	3.75	3.80	3.90
Jam	„	4.88	4.58	4.64	4.67	4.67	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.25	5.23	5.23
Oatmeal	„	2.71	3.69	3.67	3.67	3.67	2.89	2.83	2.80	2.74	2.77	2.77	2.77	2.77	2.77	2.77
Raisins	„	6.79	6.67	6.89	6.94	7.11	7.83	8.17	8.17	8.17	8.45	8.45	8.45	8.45	8.40	8.35
Currants	„	7.29	7.33	7.33	7.44	7.78	9.28	9.33	9.28	9.39	8.90	8.90	8.90	8.90	8.70	8.75
Starch	„	5.57	5.50	5.56	5.67	5.69	5.94	5.97	6.42	6.42	7.18	7.18	7.24	7.24	7.24	7.24
Blue	doz sq.	8.86	9.17	9.17	9.22	9.22	9.56	9.56	9.56	9.56	9.95	9.95	9.95	9.95	9.95	9.95
Candles	lb.	7.14	7.25	7.36	7.58	7.58	7.83	8.22	8.33	8.33	8.30	8.30	8.35	8.75	9.00	9.20
Soap	„	3.32	3.17	3.19	3.19	3.14	3.42	3.56	3.52	3.58	3.63	3.63	3.75	3.90	3.94	4.04
Potatoes	14lbs.	13.13	16.25	16.38	18.00	22.50	17.13	17.88	17.63	18.50	16.88	17.00	16.63	15.00	15.62	16.50
Onions	lb.	1.56	1.50	1.56	1.56	1.63	1.13	1.13	1.13	1.13	1.94	1.88	1.75	1.63	1.63	1.50
Kerosene	gal.	13.58	13.53	13.69	14.03	14.94	17.06	19.00	19.41	19.56	21.03	21.03	21.03	21.03	22.46	22.46
Dairy Produce—																
Milk	quart.	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.20	5.60	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	6.00	6.00
Butter	lb.	15.07	15.56	15.56	16.50	18.67	15.83	16.72	17.17	17.83	18.25	18.25	18.20	18.25	19.15	19.20
Cheese	„	12.11	10.83	12.17	12.78	13.06	11.94	12.00	12.11	13.11	11.40	11.30	11.30	11.50	12.45	13.45
Eggs	doz.	22.44	29.56	29.63	32.13	23.72	28.78	32.72	29.28	25.89	22.40	23.15	28.00	34.22	25.55	22.45
Bacon, Middle	lb.	12.93	13.22	12.83	13.39	14.06	17.11	16.94	16.67	15.78	16.70	16.70	16.70	16.55	16.00	15.35
Shoulder	„	7.93	8.47	8.19	9.00	9.56	12.61	12.50	12.33	11.50	12.45	12.25	12.25	12.00	11.60	10.95
Ham	„	13.29	13.89	13.22	13.72	14.56	18.71	18.25	17.81	17.06	17.94	17.94	17.94	17.69	17.44	17.06
Meat—																
Beef, Sirloin	„	6.75	7.56	7.94	8.50	9.56	11.56	11.33	11.22	11.11	10.89	10.89	10.94	10.56	10.67	10.88
„ Ribs	„	5.60	6.61	6.94	7.39	8.56	10.10	10.05	9.61	9.72	9.15	9.15	9.15	9.00	8.95	8.95
„ Flank	„	4.90	6.00	6.19	6.89	8.22	9.39	9.22	9.06	9.17	8.50	8.56	8.44	8.44	8.39	8.33
„ Shin	„	3.94	5.06	5.00	5.89	6.94	8.06	7.94	7.78	7.94	7.40	7.45	7.45	7.25	7.35	7.39
Steak, Rump	„	9.15	10.22	10.56	11.50	12.33	14.67	14.67	14.06	14.33	13.78	14.11	14.11	13.89	13.89	14.00
„ Shoulder	„	4.90	5.94	6.28	7.11	8.39	9.50	9.44	9.28	9.33	9.20	9.25	9.20	9.05	8.95	9.11
„ Stewing	„	5.33	5.33	5.50	6.33	7.56	8.72	8.61	8.39	8.33	8.00	8.10	8.05	7.85	8.00	8.17
Beef, Corned Roll	„	5.25	6.50	6.50	7.22	8.14	9.83	9.72	9.50	9.33	9.56	9.38	9.44	8.95	8.90	9.06
„ Brisket, with bone	„	3.89	4.57	4.79	5.43	6.14	7.50	7.38	7.19	7.25	6.50	6.60	6.40	6.45	6.25	6.31
„ without	„	4.60	5.83	5.94	6.50	7.61	9.17	9.06	8.78	8.78	8.50	8.45	8.50	8.25	8.15	8.25
Mutton, Leg	„	4.95	5.50	5.78	6.50	7.61	7.89	7.78	7.67	8.11	8.25	8.35	8.20	7.85	7.80	7.33
„ Shoulder	„	4.20	4.78	5.00	5.50	6.61	6.72	6.72	6.67	7.08	7.20	7.30	7.10	7.00	6.75	6.83
„ Loin	„	5.60	6.06	6.28	7.06	8.03	8.56	8.39	8.33	8.72	8.65	8.90	8.65	8.30	8.20	8.56
„ Neck	„	4.50	5.11	5.28	5.94	7.00	7.17	7.06	6.94	7.44	7.05	7.20	7.30	7.00	6.85	7.11
Chops, Loin	„	6.40	7.28	7.39	8.06	9.11	9.28	9.28	9.17	9.50	9.60	9.75	9.65	9.35	9.10	9.33
„ Leg	„	5.85	6.50	6.56	7.17	8.33	8.67	8.61	8.56	8.89	9.10	9.15	9.05	8.90	8.80	8.78
„ Neck	„	4.90	5.67	5.72	6.61	7.78	7.50	7.50	7.44	7.67	7.70	7.75	7.65	7.55	7.45	7.67
Pork, Leg	„	9.45	9.78	9.78	10.00	10.72	12.00	12.11	12.00	12.00	12.89	12.89	13.11	12.61	12.33	12.07
„ Loin	„	10.75	10.44	10.56	10.72	11.44	12.00	12.33	12.00	12.00	13.44	13.78	13.94	13.78	13.56	13.14
„ Belly	„	8.95	9.25	9.31	9.61	10.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	11.78	12.11	12.33	11.89	12.00	12.21
„ Chops	„	11.15	10.94	11.11	11.33	11.83	12.00	12.33	12.00	12.00	13.33	13.56	13.83	13.78	14.00	1.357

NOTE.—Prices for the intervening months have been given in previous issues of this Bulletin.

Average Predominant Retail Prices in each Capital Town on the 15th of each Month Specified from July 1914 to July 1917—(continued).

ARTICLE.	UNIT.	1914.	1915.				1916.				1917.					
		July.	April.	May.	June.	July.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.
MELBOURNE.																
Groceries, etc—		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread	2lbs.	3.00	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50
Flour	25 „	32.10	61.05	60.00	59.10	58.65	43.80	41.75	41.75	41.55	39.00	39.00	39.00	39.00	39.00	39.00
Tea	lb.	14.80	15.30	15.80	16.10	16.20	17.40	17.40	17.40	17.40	17.50	17.50	17.50	17.50	17.50	17.50
Coffee	„	18.50	18.80	19.00	18.80	18.80	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00
Sugar	„	2.75	2.75	2.75	2.80	2.78	3.50	3.48	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50
Rice	„	2.80	2.85	2.85	2.85	2.85	2.95	2.95	2.95	2.95	2.95	2.95	2.95	2.95	3.23	3.23
Sago	„	2.35	2.65	2.75	2.75	2.75	3.20	3.33	3.40	3.45	3.30	3.30	3.30	3.35	3.50	3.55
Jam	„	3.95	4.15	4.13	4.18	4.18	4.68	4.68	4.70	4.73	4.93	4.98	4.98	5.27	5.73	5.73
Oatmeal	„	2.20	3.78	3.75	3.78	3.78	2.53	2.61	2.54	2.54	2.43	2.43	2.43	2.43	2.43	2.44
Raisins	„	6.30	6.45	6.65	6.65	6.65	7.55	7.70	7.70	7.80	8.20	8.20	8.20	8.10	8.10	8.10
Currants	„	6.30	6.75	7.00	7.00	7.05	8.55	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.45	8.45	8.40	8.40	8.20	8.20
Starch	„	5.40	5.50	5.55	5.55	5.60	5.70	5.80	6.20	6.40	6.65	6.70	6.70	6.70	6.70	6.70
Blue	doz. sq.	6.33	6.33	6.33	6.33	6.33	7.13	7.48	7.64	7.69	8.24	8.34	8.39	8.39	8.24	8.24
Candles	lb.	6.65	6.65	6.75	6.80	6.80	7.45	8.25	8.25	8.35	8.45	8.45	8.80	9.35	9.45	9.65
Soap	„	3.65	3.60	3.68	3.68	3.68	4.13	4.13	4.09	4.09	4.07	4.16	4.38	4.66	4.79	4.86
Potatoes	14lbs.	9.21	10.14	10.14	12.71	17.14	11.64	12.43	12.00	12.79	11.36	10.71	10.43	9.64	9.29	9.36
Onions	lb.	1.14	1.21	1.14	1.14	1.50	0.82	0.82	0.82	0.82	1.50	1.36	1.11	1.04	1.04	1.21
Kerosene	gal.	12.61	12.90	13.18	13.23	13.23	16.88	18.90	19.21	19.88	20.89	20.89	20.72	21.19	22.75	22.84
Dairy Produce—																
Milk	quart.	5.33	6.00	6.17	6.33	6.33	5.83	6.17	6.17	6.17	5.17	5.17	5.67	5.67	5.67	6.17
Butter	lb.	15.05	19.00	24.45	24.80	26.50	18.20	18.90	20.70	23.20	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.75	18.80
Cheese	„	10.93	11.70	13.10	13.20	14.80	15.20	15.00	15.00	15.00	13.70	13.50	13.30	13.30	13.00	13.25
Eggs	doz.	18.55	27.50	26.20	27.00	22.90	26.70	30.10	26.30	20.80	18.70	18.80	23.90	27.00	23.30	18.90
Bacon, Middle	lb.	13.65	14.55	15.25	15.25	16.15	19.70	19.40	17.90	16.10	16.60	16.60	16.80	16.80	16.70	16.20
„ Shoulder	„	8.44	9.38	10.06	10.22	11.11	13.67	13.17	12.83	11.50	12.67	12.33	12.17	12.14	11.71	11.57
„ Ham	„	14.17	14.89	15.10	15.00	15.67	19.63	19.50	18.13	16.63	17.25	17.25	17.63	17.50	17.38	16.63
Meat—																
Beef, Sirloin	lb.	7.20	7.55	8.40	9.85	10.40	10.55	10.30	10.20	10.80	9.90	9.90	9.95	9.75	9.85	9.90
„ Ribs	„	6.00	6.45	7.40	8.45	9.30	9.45	9.10	9.10	8.85	8.50	8.45	8.45	8.40	8.45	8.55
„ Flank	„	5.40	5.80	6.70	7.35	8.45	8.80	8.55	8.20	8.45	7.80	7.50	7.50	7.35	7.45	7.50
„ Shin	„	4.20	4.35	5.10	6.50	7.25	8.00	7.65	7.60	7.30	6.50	6.55	6.50	6.45	6.55	6.65
Steak, Rump	„	9.60	9.70	10.60	11.30	12.20	14.20	13.50	13.20	13.10	13.70	13.70	13.60	13.60	13.60	13.70
„ Shoulder	„	5.45	6.05	7.15	8.05	8.80	9.75	9.35	9.20	9.10	8.95	8.90	8.90	8.60	8.75	8.80
„ Stewing	„	6.05	5.30	6.10	7.55	8.10	8.85	8.40	8.25	8.15	7.65	7.75	7.70	7.55	7.70	7.80
Beef, Corned Roll	„	5.75	6.35	7.20	8.25	9.10	10.25	9.70	9.50	9.40	9.05	9.05	9.05	8.90	9.00	9.10
„ Brisket, with bone	„	3.50	3.85	4.89	5.55	6.00	7.05	6.50	6.45	6.15	5.80	5.80	5.70	5.55	5.70	5.65
„ „ without	„	4.80	5.20	6.05	7.20	7.65	8.80	8.55	8.30	8.15	7.90	7.85	7.85	7.80	7.85	7.90
Mutton, Leg	„	5.45	5.73	6.95	8.10	8.65	8.75	8.55	8.35	8.30	8.00	8.00	7.90	7.85	7.95	7.95
„ Shoulder	„	4.15	4.55	5.70	6.95	7.40	7.10	6.90	6.85	6.85	6.45	6.35	6.45	6.50	6.55	6.45
„ Loin	„	5.10	5.65	6.60	7.70	8.30	8.35	8.00	7.75	7.70	7.50	7.45	7.45	7.40	7.45	7.35
„ Neck	„	4.10	4.40	5.30	6.75	7.30	6.85	6.70	6.55	6.55	6.00	5.90	5.90	5.85	5.90	5.85
Chops, Loin	„	6.15	6.85	7.50	8.95	9.30	9.55	9.20	9.10	9.15	9.00	9.00	8.95	8.95	8.90	8.90
„ Leg	„	6.00	6.60	7.25	8.65	9.00	9.60	9.20	9.00	9.10	8.90	8.90	8.85	8.85	9.00	9.00
„ Neck	„	4.40	4.65	5.65	7.05	7.35	7.30	7.20	7.10	7.00	6.80	6.90	6.80	6.65	6.70	6.80
Pork, Leg	„	8.80	8.35	8.75	9.40	10.25	13.50	12.40	11.80	11.25	10.95	10.85	11.05	11.05	11.15	10.95
„ Loin	„	9.65	9.30	9.80	10.20	11.05	14.50	13.30	13.10	12.10	11.95	11.80	12.00	12.00	12.15	11.85
„ Belly	„	9.30	9.10	9.60	10.15	10.75	14.00	13.00	12.80	12.00	11.80	11.80	11.80	11.90	12.15	11.80
„ Chops	„	9.90	9.70	10.05	10.80	11.55	15.70	14.40	13.90	13.30	12.70	12.60	12.70	12.60	12.60	12.60

RETAIL PRICES, HOUSE RENT AND PURCHASING-POWER OF MONEY. 25

See footnote on previous page.

Average Predominant Retail Prices in each Capital Town on the 15th of each Month Specified from July 1914 to July 1917—(continued).

ARTICLE.	UNIT.	1914.	1915.				1916.				1917.					
		July.	April.	May.	June.	July.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.
BRISBANE.																
Groceries, etc.—		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread	2lbs.	3.50	5.00	4.56	4.50	4.75	4.00	4.00	4.00	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75
Flour	25 „	32.94	59.40	60.00	60.14	59.32	48.00	46.20	45.60	46.05	44.20	44.20	44.20	44.20	44.20	44.20
Tea	lb.	17.00	17.30	18.00	18.09	18.73	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.90	19.85
Coffee	„	20.33	20.30	20.09	20.09	20.09	20.60	20.60	20.60	20.60	20.60	20.60	20.60	20.60	20.60	20.60
Sugar	„	2.50	2.75	2.77	2.80	2.80	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50
Rice	„	2.61	2.60	2.59	2.59	2.59	2.75	2.90	2.90	2.90	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.18
Sago	„	2.22	2.55	2.55	2.59	2.82	3.00	3.25	3.30	3.20	3.40	3.45	3.35	3.35	3.55	3.55
Jam	„	4.05	4.15	4.23	4.25	4.25	5.08	5.13	5.23	5.20	5.23	5.30	5.30	5.30	5.28	5.30
Oatmeal	„	2.50	3.70	3.77	3.75	3.82	2.55	2.55	2.54	2.57	2.83	2.81	2.81	2.79	2.75	2.75
Raisins	„	6.61	6.65	6.82	6.86	6.86	7.80	7.95	7.95	7.80	8.00	8.30	8.30	8.35	8.35	8.35
Currants	„	7.11	6.70	6.95	7.18	7.27	8.75	8.80	8.75	8.80	8.75	8.80	8.80	8.85	8.85	8.40
Starch	„	5.61	5.75	5.77	5.77	5.77	5.90	5.95	6.50	6.85	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10
Blue	doz. sq.	8.61	9.00	8.91	8.95	8.95	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.05	9.15	9.20	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.30
Candles	lb.	6.94	6.80	6.86	6.77	6.77	7.55	8.30	8.40	8.50	8.50	8.40	8.40	8.80	8.85	8.95
Soap	„	2.33	3.03	3.00	3.16	3.18	3.60	3.60	3.65	3.65	3.67	3.63	3.63	3.71	5.03	5.14
Potatoes	14lbs.	14.78	16.95	16.68	17.45	22.64	18.70	18.90	18.90	19.35	12.75	13.65	14.00	14.70	12.90	13.50
Onions	lb.	1.50	1.60	1.50	1.50	1.55	1.10	1.05	1.05	1.05	1.70	1.50	1.45	1.35	1.35	1.45
Kerosene	gal.	14.00	13.80	13.86	13.95	14.05	16.40	18.88	19.72	20.12	20.55	20.05	20.20	20.40	22.65	22.95
Dairy Produce—																
Milk	quart.	4.67	5.10	5.38	5.70	5.83	5.92	5.92	5.83	5.83	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.92	5.92
Butter	lb.	13.22	19.00	24.00	22.64	23.27	15.90	17.00	16.90	16.90	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	19.10	19.10
Cheese	„	10.75	11.45	13.55	14.18	14.27	11.75	11.85	11.95	11.85	11.05	11.10	11.10	11.30	11.50	12.00
Eggs	doz.	17.56	24.10	28.45	30.09	22.36	30.50	34.70	22.00	20.90	21.50	21.30	23.90	26.70	20.40	22.70
Bacon, Middle	lb.	10.89	12.50	12.64	12.00	12.18	18.50	17.50	15.60	13.05	15.00	15.00	15.10	15.20	15.20	14.35
Shoulder	„	7.33	9.20	9.09	8.73	8.73	13.25	12.80	11.80	9.20	10.60	10.60	10.55	10.60	10.65	9.85
Ham	„	14.83	15.65	15.36	15.18	15.18	18.25	18.20	17.50	16.35	18.15	17.90	17.90	18.10	18.10	18.10
Meat—																
Beef Sirloin	lb.	5.14	6.80	6.80	6.85	7.20	8.95	8.60	7.93	7.75	7.80	7.80	7.80	7.80	7.80	7.90
„ Ribs	„	3.83	5.10	5.10	5.25	5.85	6.85	6.53	6.20	6.00	5.90	5.90	5.85	5.90	5.85	5.80
„ Flank	„	3.88	5.44	5.44	5.50	6.11	7.94	7.83	6.72	6.56	6.06	6.06	6.17	6.17	6.11	6.06
„ Shin	„	3.06	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.80	5.90	5.90	4.80	4.55	4.60	4.60	4.50	4.55	4.55	4.65
Steak, Rump	„	6.89	8.20	8.25	8.35	9.05	11.00	10.86	9.00	8.75	8.75	8.75	8.75	8.75	8.75	9.05
„ Shoulder	„	4.06	6.20	6.20	6.30	7.05	8.75	8.50	7.00	6.65	6.40	6.40	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.45
„ Stewing	„	4.11	6.20	6.15	6.30	7.05	8.75	8.50	7.00	6.65	6.40	6.40	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.45
Beef, Corned Roll	„	4.86	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.90	8.65	8.45	7.05	6.75	6.75	6.75	6.75	6.75	6.75	6.80
„ Brisket, with bone	„	3.17	3.95	3.95	4.00	4.55	5.20	5.00	4.48	4.35	4.25	4.25	4.25	4.25	4.25	4.20
„ „ without	„	4.22	4.95	4.95	5.00	5.80	6.95	6.90	5.78	5.56	5.75	5.75	5.81	5.81	5.83	5.72
Mutton, Leg	„	5.17	5.50	5.55	5.90	6.80	8.80	8.70	7.55	7.40	7.45	7.50	7.55	7.55	7.60	7.65
„ Shoulder	„	3.61	3.75	3.75	4.10	5.00	6.60	6.45	5.10	4.95	5.25	5.25	5.35	5.30	5.35	5.45
„ Loin	„	5.17	5.50	5.55	5.85	6.65	9.00	9.00	7.45	7.35	7.65	7.65	7.75	7.85	7.85	7.90
„ Neck	„	4.72	5.05	5.05	5.45	5.90	8.45	8.25	6.20	6.05	6.60	6.55	6.50	6.95	6.90	6.95
Chops, Loin	„	5.61	5.75	5.75	6.15	7.23	9.85	9.50	7.55	7.40	8.05	8.00	8.20	8.25	8.30	8.30
„ Leg	„	5.61	5.75	5.75	6.15	7.20	9.85	9.50	7.85	7.65	8.15	8.10	8.25	8.30	8.35	8.35
„ Neck	„	5.61	5.75	5.75	6.15	7.20	9.65	9.40	7.00	6.70	7.70	7.65	7.95	7.95	8.05	8.05
Pork, Leg	„	8.50	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	12.63	12.38	12.00	11.14	11.13	11.13	11.13	11.13	11.13	11.22
„ Loin	„	8.44	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	12.75	12.38	12.13	11.57	11.38	11.38	11.38	11.38	11.38	11.44
„ Belly	„	7.56	8.06	8.06	8.06	8.06	11.38	11.38	11.00	10.14	10.13	10.13	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.11
„ Chops	„	8.89	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.44	13.25	12.88	12.63	12.14	12.13	12.13	12.13	12.13	12.13	12.11

Average Predominant Retail Prices in each Capital Town on the 15th of each Month Specified from July 1914 to July 1917—(continued)

ARTICLE.	UNIT.	1914.	1915.				1916.				1917.					
		July.	April.	May.	June.	July.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.
ADELAIDE.																
Groceries, etc.—		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread	2lbs.	3.50	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.92	3.50	4.00	4.00	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50
Flour	25 „	35.55	61.22	63.50	65.22	64.70	44.90	44.90	43.05	42.45	39.60	39.75	39.50	39.50	39.10	39.20
Tea	lb.	16.20	17.55	17.70	17.89	17.80	18.40	18.40	18.50	18.50	18.60	18.50	18.50	18.70	18.70	18.70
Coffee	„	19.10	19.50	19.50	19.89	19.60	20.10	20.10	19.90	19.80	19.80	19.65	20.00	19.85	19.75	19.75
Sugar	„	2.80	2.70	2.73	2.75	2.78	3.45	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.48	3.48	3.48	3.48	3.48	3.48
Rice	„	3.35	3.40	3.35	3.39	3.30	3.40	3.40	3.40	3.40	3.40	3.40	3.45	3.45	3.40	3.65
Sago	„	2.85	3.10	3.10	3.11	3.15	3.60	3.85	3.70	3.75	3.85	3.85	3.85	3.85	4.25	4.50
Jam	„	3.73	4.10	4.18	4.28	4.23	4.60	4.65	4.70	4.68	4.60	4.75	4.60	4.60	4.58	4.60
Oatmeal	„	2.40	4.10	4.10	4.19	4.15	2.63	2.55	2.47	2.42	2.46	2.46	2.50	2.51	2.54	2.59
Raisins	„	6.20	6.40	6.40	6.56	6.80	7.40	7.50	7.60	7.90	8.30	8.35	8.30	8.00	8.25	8.20
Currants	„	6.20	6.60	6.60	6.89	6.90	8.65	8.05	8.10	7.95	7.85	7.65	7.75	7.85	7.85	7.80
Starch	„	5.55	5.65	5.65	5.78	5.65	6.10	6.05	6.45	6.70	6.85	6.73	6.93	7.05	7.05	7.10
Blue	doz. sq.	9.95	10.05	10.10	10.28	10.10	9.38	9.30	9.30	9.23	10.15	10.25	10.25	9.95	9.95	9.95
Candles	lb.	7.20	7.60	7.60	7.83	7.55	8.20	9.15	9.20	9.20	9.25	9.20	9.25	9.80	9.85	9.80
Soap	„	3.13	3.48	3.50	3.56	3.50	3.58	3.73	3.69	3.71	3.76	3.77	4.29	4.55	4.62	4.73
Potatoes	14lbs.	12.00	13.88	14.25	14.71	22.19	18.94	17.63	15.94	16.44	11.17	11.17	11.06	10.44	10.78	10.50
Onions	lb.	1.57	1.75	1.69	1.79	1.75	1.13	1.25	1.28	1.34	1.11	1.28	1.28	1.41	1.28	1.33
Kerosene	gal.	14.70	14.95	14.95	15.17	14.85	17.70	21.05	20.94	21.69	22.24	21.84	22.24	22.99	24.29	24.69
Dairy Produce—																
Milk	quart.	5.80	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	5.17	5.17	5.17	5.17	5.33	5.42	5.25	5.25	5.33	5.25
Butter	lb.	17.05	21.40	25.05	25.67	25.90	19.60	20.85	23.30	22.00	20.20	20.25	20.30	20.25	19.30	16.75
Cheese	„	11.15	12.40	13.80	14.67	16.30	13.70	13.60	13.50	13.40	12.10	11.90	12.00	11.80	12.30	12.30
Eggs	doz.	16.32	23.10	24.30	22.83	21.55	22.25	23.55	22.55	19.40	14.75	13.40	18.70	20.15	18.60	14.00
Bacon, Middle ..	lb.	13.65	15.05	15.15	15.50	15.25	18.80	18.60	17.75	16.85	15.60	15.40	15.65	15.85	14.90	13.70
„ Shoulder	„	9.25	10.45	10.65	10.89	10.90	13.80	13.60	13.70	12.90	12.39	12.17	12.00	12.10	11.50	10.56
Ham	„	14.80	16.05	16.05	16.39	15.90	19.10	18.90	18.20	17.10	16.89	16.89	16.67	16.25	15.78	14.89
Meat—																
Beef, Sirloin	lb.	7.53	8.06	8.39	10.06	10.06	10.30	10.40	10.40	10.30	10.05	10.05	10.00	9.95	9.25	9.20
„ Ribs	„	6.55	7.00	7.44	9.11	9.06	9.30	9.40	9.40	9.20	8.85	8.85	8.70	8.65	8.20	8.10
„ Flank	„	5.95	6.94	7.38	9.06	9.00	9.30	9.30	9.44	9.11	9.00	9.00	9.00	8.85	8.06	7.94
„ Shin	„	5.80	5.44	5.83	7.56	7.56	8.50	8.60	8.50	8.50	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.00	7.90
Steak, Rump	„	10.00	10.33	10.56	12.33	12.22	13.60	13.70	13.70	13.70	13.60	13.40	13.40	13.30	13.00	12.90
„ Shoulder	„	7.10	7.28	7.67	9.83	9.72	10.10	10.20	10.20	10.00	9.90	9.70	9.60	9.60	9.30	8.80
„ Stewing	„	7.15	7.33	7.61	9.50	9.50	9.90	10.00	9.90	9.90	9.50	9.50	9.40	9.30	8.90	8.80
Beef, Corned Roll ..	„	7.40	7.78	8.11	9.44	9.39	10.30	10.35	10.35	10.30	10.05	10.00	10.00	10.00	9.65	9.40
„ Brisket, with bone	„	5.50	5.88	6.00	7.00	7.10	8.08	8.25	8.25	8.08	7.79	7.42	7.42	7.50	7.14	7.00
„ „ without	„	6.35	6.67	6.83	8.28	8.33	9.30	9.35	9.35	9.30	8.83	8.85	8.85	8.70	8.30	8.05
Mutton, Leg	„	6.75	7.17	7.67	9.61	9.28	9.80	9.80	9.80	9.75	9.50	9.50	9.60	9.50	8.80	8.55
„ Shoulder	„	5.75	6.22	6.72	8.61	8.39	8.80	8.85	8.90	8.85	8.50	8.60	8.60	8.50	7.60	7.40
„ Loin	„	6.85	7.17	7.56	9.61	9.33	9.50	9.55	9.50	9.45	9.40	9.45	9.45	9.35	8.65	8.45
„ Neck	„	5.50	5.83	6.11	8.33	8.00	8.50	8.25	8.30	8.25	8.00	8.00	7.85	7.75	7.10	6.95
Chops, Loin	„	7.55	7.94	8.22	10.22	9.89	10.20	10.40	10.40	10.30	10.10	10.10	10.10	10.00	9.30	9.15
„ Leg	„	7.70	8.00	8.44	10.33	10.22	10.80	10.90	10.90	10.80	10.60	10.80	10.70	10.50	9.90	9.80
„ Neck	„	6.50	7.00	7.28	9.06	8.83	9.30	9.50	9.60	9.50	9.12	9.10	9.10	8.80	8.35	8.15
Pork, Leg	„	9.35	9.94	10.17	11.06	12.17	13.20	12.90	13.00	12.50	11.15	11.20	11.50	10.60	9.90	9.70
„ Loin	„	10.18	10.56	10.78	12.00	13.00	14.10	13.70	13.80	13.50	11.70	11.90	12.00	11.10	10.70	10.60
„ Belly	„	10.00	10.44	10.89	12.00	13.00	14.10	13.70	13.90	13.50	11.55	11.70	11.80	11.10	10.60	10.50
„ Chops	„	10.40	10.67	11.00	12.44	12.89	14.50	14.10	14.40	14.20	12.30	12.46	12.80	12.00	11.70	11.40

Average Predominant Retail Prices in each Capital Town on the 15th of each Month Specified from July 1914 to July 1917—(continued).

ARTICLE.	UNIT	1914.	1915.				1916.				1917.					
		July.	April.	May.	June.	July.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.
PERTH AND FREMANTLE.																
Groceries, etc.—		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread	2lbs.	3.50	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Flour	25 „	32.33	59.57	59.14	59.63	65.36	44.10	43.50	42.60	41.40	39.80	39.80	39.80	39.80	39.80	39.70
Tea	lb.	15.89	16.57	17.00	17.50	17.50	17.80	17.90	18.10	17.90	18.20	18.20	18.20	18.20	18.10	18.20
Coffee	„	18.33	19.57	19.57	19.38	19.38	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.20	19.50	19.60	19.60	19.30	19.30
Sugar	„	2.75	2.79	2.75	2.75	2.78	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.48	3.48	3.48	3.48	3.48	3.48
Rice	„	2.83	3.00	2.93	2.94	2.94	2.90	2.90	3.00	2.90	2.95	2.95	2.95	2.95	3.00	3.05
Sago	„	2.67	2.57	2.57	2.63	2.88	3.00	3.33	3.33	3.28	3.45	3.45	3.45	3.45	3.55	3.53
Jam	„	4.19	4.39	4.25	4.28	4.31	5.00	5.03	5.10	5.05	5.15	5.15	5.13	5.18	5.15	5.23
Oatmeal	„	2.44	4.25	3.96	4.00	4.00	2.68	2.73	2.60	2.68	2.68	2.70	2.68	2.67	2.66	2.67
Raisins	„	6.94	7.14	7.14	6.94	6.88	7.85	7.70	7.80	7.75	7.95	7.80	7.80	7.90	7.75	7.75
Currants	„	6.44	6.71	6.71	6.63	6.75	9.15	8.65	8.65	8.55	7.90	8.00	8.00	8.25	8.20	7.95
Starch	„	5.89	5.93	5.79	5.81	5.81	6.00	5.90	6.00	6.30	6.80	6.80	6.85	6.85	6.90	6.90
Blue	doz. sq.	10.89	11.00	10.64	10.81	10.81	10.70	10.70	10.70	10.75	10.60	10.65	10.65	10.65	10.65	10.60
Candles	lb.	7.50	7.57	7.50	7.38	7.50	8.35	8.55	9.05	8.80	9.20	9.15	9.30	9.55	9.75	9.45
Soap	„	2.78	3.18	3.07	3.00	3.09	3.00	2.93	3.04	3.07	3.16	3.24	3.55	4.03	4.11	4.11
Potatoes	14lbs.	20.13	20.50	18.33	19.00	25.00	21.22	31.40	20.80	20.56	14.10	15.50	17.90	16.22	14.90	15.20
Onions	lb.	1.64	2.00	1.80	1.75	1.71	1.39	1.28	1.16	1.17	1.80	1.85	1.68	1.67	1.50	1.50
Kerosene	gal.	14.42	13.82	13.89	13.91	13.91	16.65	20.11	20.08	19.95	19.88	19.88	19.88	20.63	21.83	22.46
Dairy Produce—																
Milk	quart.	6.33	7.25	7.17	7.25	6.80	6.70	6.60	6.60	6.60	6.40	6.40	6.40	6.40	6.40	6.40
Butter	lb.	15.78	18.86	23.86	25.63	26.50	18.00	18.70	20.70	22.20	19.70	19.80	20.00	19.90	20.90	20.90
Cheese	„	11.25	11.71	14.29	15.13	16.00	14.20	14.20	14.20	14.20	12.70	12.80	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.20
Eggs	doz.	20.59	30.00	30.29	29.75	26.38	27.40	32.60	29.70	22.00	18.40	18.90	24.60	30.20	28.50	18.80
Bacon, Middle	lb.	14.11	14.50	14.71	14.75	14.75	18.20	18.90	17.70	15.50	16.30	16.30	16.40	16.40	16.50	16.30
„ Shoulder	„	8.89	9.43	9.57	9.63	9.63	12.40	12.80	11.35	10.70	11.10	11.10	10.90	10.90	10.90	11.63
„ Ham	„	15.44	16.14	15.71	16.13	16.13	19.80	20.10	18.60	17.00	17.80	17.80	17.80	17.80	17.80	17.50
Meat—																
Beef, Sirloin	lb.	7.88	7.89	7.33	7.33	7.56	8.88	9.00	10.00	9.63	9.00	9.00	9.20	10.10	9.30	9.00
„ Ribs	„	6.75	6.78	6.11	6.17	6.28	7.75	8.00	9.00	8.63	7.90	7.90	8.10	8.90	8.20	8.00
„ Flank	„	5.75	6.06	5.89	5.75	6.06	6.88	7.63	10.00	9.63	7.60	7.60	7.80	7.80	7.30	7.10
„ Shin	„	5.88	6.00	5.44	5.67	5.67	6.88	7.50	7.83	8.14	7.75	7.80	7.70	8.50	7.80	7.70
Steak, Rump	„	11.38	11.89	11.22	11.33	11.00	13.25	13.75	15.25	14.25	13.60	13.00	13.40	14.10	13.50	13.30
„ Shoulder	„	7.25	7.33	6.78	7.00	6.94	8.38	9.00	10.50	9.75	9.10	9.20	9.30	10.20	9.20	9.20
„ Stewing	„	6.75	7.00	6.11	6.33	6.11	7.75	8.25	10.13	9.50	8.80	8.70	8.70	9.50	8.70	8.60
Beef, Corned Roll	„	6.88	7.44	6.56	6.67	6.67	7.88	8.13	9.50	9.13	8.50	8.40	8.50	9.10	8.50	8.40
„ Brisket, with bone	„	4.25	5.00	4.56	4.33	4.44	5.75	6.13	7.25	6.75	6.50	6.50	6.50	7.00	6.30	6.10
„ „ without	„	6.00	6.44	5.56	5.83	5.56	7.00	7.38	8.63	8.13	7.90	7.90	7.90	8.30	7.70	7.50
Mutton, Leg	„	9.00	8.33	8.33	8.33	8.33	8.88	9.25	10.25	10.50	9.20	9.20	9.40	10.40	9.80	8.95
„ Shoulder	„	7.25	7.33	7.44	7.50	7.44	7.75	8.00	9.13	9.38	8.10	7.85	8.10	8.90	8.20	7.75
„ Loin	„	8.00	8.22	8.33	8.33	8.33	8.38	8.75	9.88	10.38	9.00	9.00	9.00	10.00	9.50	8.50
„ Neck	„	6.75	6.78	7.00	7.00	6.89	7.38	7.63	8.50	8.63	7.90	7.80	7.70	8.40	7.80	7.30
Chops, Loin	„	8.88	8.56	8.67	8.83	8.67	8.75	9.13	11.13	11.38	9.90	9.80	9.90	11.10	10.10	9.90
„ Leg	„	9.00	8.78	9.00	9.17	8.67	8.88	9.38	11.25	11.50	10.10	10.00	10.00	11.10	10.00	9.80
„ Neck	„	7.13	7.11	7.33	7.33	7.11	7.50	7.75	9.25	9.56	8.70	8.50	8.70	9.20	8.60	8.00
Pork, Leg	„	10.50	9.44	9.56	10.00	10.00	11.00	11.25	11.63	11.63	10.60	10.50	10.50	10.70	10.50	10.10
„ Loin	„	10.50	9.56	9.72	10.17	10.22	11.38	11.50	11.63	11.63	10.90	10.80	10.80	11.00	10.70	10.10
„ Belly	„	9.63	9.22	9.17	9.83	9.67	10.38	10.50	11.00	10.88	10.10	10.00	10.00	10.20	9.90	9.30
„ Chops	„	10.88	10.00	10.11	10.50	10.78	11.50	11.75	12.00	11.88	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.60	11.50	10.50

Average Predominant Retail Prices in each Capital Town on the 15th of each Month Specified from July 1914 to July 1917—(continued).

ARTICLE.	UNIT.	1914.	1915.				1916.				1917					
		July.	April.	May.	June.	July.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.
HOBART.																
Groceries, etc.—		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread	2lbs.	3.50	5.00	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.00	4.00	4.00	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50
Flour	25 „	36.30	59.85	60.00	59.85	59.85	41.50	41.60	41.00	41.10	41.20	41.20	41.20	41.10	41.10	41.10
Tea	lb.	15.60	16.10	17.00	17.00	17.20	17.30	17.30	17.30	17.50	17.20	17.20	17.20	17.10	17.20	17.78
Coffee	„	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00
Sugar	„	2.68	2.70	2.78	2.98	2.98	3.48	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50
Rice	„	2.95	2.95	2.94	2.95	2.98	3.08	3.08	3.08	3.08	3.03	3.03	3.03	3.03	3.33	3.47
Sago	„	2.95	3.05	3.06	3.05	3.25	3.55	3.50	3.65	3.65	3.70	3.70	3.65	3.65	3.75	3.89
Jam	„	4.35	4.38	4.33	4.38	4.35	4.83	4.88	5.03	5.05	4.88	4.90	4.93	4.88	4.85	4.90
Oatmeal	„	2.30	3.75	3.58	3.65	3.70	2.38	2.30	2.27	2.26	2.36	2.36	2.38	2.38	2.38	2.38
Raisins	„	6.45	7.05	7.17	7.10	7.30	7.55	7.55	7.55	7.65	7.80	7.80	7.80	7.80	7.75	7.75
Currants	„	7.15	7.65	7.72	7.75	7.90	9.60	9.60	9.60	9.65	9.55	9.55	9.35	9.25	9.30	9.30
Starch	„	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.10	6.60	6.75	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10
Blue	doz. sq.	8.35	9.05	8.94	8.85	8.80	8.95	9.05	9.25	9.35	9.15	9.20	9.20	9.15	9.20	9.28
Candles	lb.	5.85	5.90	6.00	6.10	6.00	6.60	7.35	7.35	7.40	7.45	7.50	7.50	8.10	8.25	8.39
Soap	„	3.06	3.06	3.00	3.06	3.05	3.70	3.80	3.73	3.70	3.73	3.78	4.30	4.67	4.90	4.87
Potatoes	14lbs.	10.44	12.83	12.38	12.10	15.00	14.69	14.88	14.25	13.38	16.71	13.71	13.29	12.71	12.71	13.00
Onions	lb.	1.78	1.69	1.56	1.63	2.06	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.93	1.71	1.69	1.63	1.69	1.69
Kerosene	gal.	14.90	16.00	16.00	16.68	16.88	17.38	19.28	19.35	20.08	20.72	20.72	20.92	22.26	23.19	23.65
Dairy Produce—																
Milk	quart.	6.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	5.83	5.83	5.83	5.83	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.92	6.00	6.00
Butter	lb.	15.90	21.70	25.44	26.70	28.60	17.90	19.40	21.10	23.40	17.85	18.05	18.05	18.20	20.45	20.61
Cheese	„	11.57	11.80	13.11	13.40	13.90	14.70	14.70	14.70	14.50	12.40	12.40	12.20	12.00	12.30	13.22
Eggs	doz.	17.43	25.20	23.67	25.90	23.10	25.00	30.00	22.60	20.30	16.00	18.70	23.60	28.50	24.30	18.22
Bacon, Middle	lb.	12.20	13.50	13.78	13.70	13.70	19.00	18.67	18.00	16.30	15.90	15.90	15.90	15.90	15.90	15.11
„ Shoulder	„	8.13	9.00	8.88	8.89	9.11	11.88	12.00	11.19	10.33	10.78	10.67	10.67	10.44	10.33	10.25
Ham	„	14.80	15.50	15.50	15.57	15.71	18.40	18.80	18.40	17.83	17.60	17.80	17.80	17.80	17.80	17.80
Meat—																
Beef, Sirloin	lb.	7.33	7.50	7.40	7.81	8.50	11.70	10.50	10.40	10.30	10.00	10.00	10.00	9.56	9.78	9.83
„ Ribs	„	6.56	6.45	6.35	6.75	7.20	9.90	9.10	9.10	8.90	9.00	9.33	9.11	8.56	8.72	8.78
„ Flank	„	4.94	5.05	5.05	5.56	6.00	9.00	8.00	7.90	7.95	7.67	7.78	7.56	7.44	7.50	7.50
„ Shin	„	5.63	4.78	4.78	5.43	5.78	8.30	7.40	7.00	7.00	7.17	7.17	7.33	7.17	7.17	7.67
Steak, Rump	„	9.56	9.70	9.70	10.25	10.40	14.00	13.10	13.00	12.60	13.11	13.00	13.11	12.89	12.56	12.67
„ Shoulder	„	5.94	6.00	6.10	6.38	6.90	10.20	9.60	9.20	9.10	9.00	9.00	9.00	8.56	8.33	8.89
„ Stewing	„	7.33	6.00	6.00	6.38	6.70	9.90	9.00	8.50	8.50	9.00	8.89	9.00	8.33	8.44	8.67
Beef, Corned Roll	„	6.39	6.80	6.70	7.38	7.60	11.00	10.10	9.30	9.50	9.78	9.89	9.78	9.44	9.67	9.56
„ Brisket, with bone	„	4.44	4.60	4.60	4.88	5.50	8.10	7.20	6.85	6.80	6.83	6.83	6.72	6.39	6.44	6.56
„ „ without	„	5.75	6.00	6.00	6.43	6.81	9.71	8.86	8.86	8.78	8.63	8.75	8.63	8.25	8.06	8.39
Mutton, Leg	„	6.78	6.90	6.85	7.19	7.70	11.00	9.90	9.10	9.30	9.67	9.78	9.56	9.33	9.44	9.44
„ Shoulder	„	5.50	5.75	5.75	6.19	6.65	9.60	8.30	8.10	8.15	8.22	8.22	8.22	7.78	8.44	8.44
„ Loin	„	6.50	6.55	6.55	7.00	7.35	10.90	9.60	8.95	9.25	9.22	8.89	8.89	8.67	9.11	9.22
„ Neck	„	5.78	5.50	5.40	5.88	6.30	9.05	8.00	7.70	7.45	7.94	7.89	7.78	7.56	7.94	7.94
Chops, Loin	„	7.17	7.10	7.15	7.81	8.10	11.60	10.40	9.95	10.05	10.33	10.22	10.22	9.89	9.89	9.89
„ Leg	„	7.11	7.20	7.10	7.75	8.35	11.70	10.40	9.95	9.95	10.11	10.00	10.00	9.89	9.78	10.00
„ Neck	„	5.67	6.10	6.10	6.63	7.10	9.89	9.00	8.67	8.56	8.63	8.50	8.38	8.33	8.39	8.39
Pork, Leg	„	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.63	9.30	13.10	11.60	10.90	10.90	10.67	10.44	10.67	10.11	9.89	10.33
„ Loin	„	8.39	8.25	8.35	9.19	9.80	13.90	12.60	11.70	11.30	11.33	11.11	11.28	10.67	10.78	10.67
„ Belly	„	8.33	8.60	8.60	9.38	9.80	14.10	13.20	12.30	11.80	11.78	11.44	11.67	11.11	10.83	10.78
„ Chops	„	8.78	8.65	8.90	9.44	10.20	14.10	13.30	12.75	12.30	12.00	11.56	11.89	11.22	11.33	11.22

**Weighted Average Weekly Rentals in Capital Towns, 1st Quarter, 1915,
to 1st Quarter, 1917, inclusive.**

TOWN.	1915.								1916.								1917.	
	1st Quarter (Jan. to March.)		2nd Quarter (April to June.)		3rd Quarter (July to Sept.)		4th Quarter (Oct. to Dec.)		1st Quarter (Jan. to March.)		2nd Quarter (April to June.)		3rd Quarter (July to Sept.)		4th Quarter. (Oct. to Dec.)		1st Quarter (Jan. to March.)	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Sydney ..	19	2	19	0	19	0	18	11	18	10	18	11	18	11	18	11	18	11
Melbourne ..	17	1	17	0	16	10	16	10	17	0	16	11	17	0	17	1	17	5
Brisbane ..	13	4	13	6	13	5	13	5	13	1	13	2	13	3	13	4	13	4
Adelaide ..	14	9	14	5	14	6	14	6	14	6	14	6	14	6	14	7	14	10
Perth ..	13	7	13	2	13	1	13	2	13	7	13	7	13	7	13	7	13	7
Hobart ..	14	5	14	6	14	6	14	6	14	4	14	5	14	6	14	8	14	9

NOTE.—The Rentals are shewn to the nearest penny.

SECTION IV—WHOLESALE PRICES.

1. **Index-Numbers.**—The Melbourne wholesale price index-number for the first quarter of 1917 is 1525, compared with 1514 for the last quarter of 1916, a rise of 0.7 per cent. during the quarter under review. Compared with the index-number for the first quarter of 1916, the price level for the corresponding quarter of 1917 shews an increase of 1.5 per cent. Index-numbers at decennial periods since 1871 and for each year since 1911 are shewn in the following table :—

Melbourne Wholesale Prices.—Index Numbers, 1871 to 1917.

Year.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.
												1st Qr.
Index No.*	1,229	1,121	945	974	1,003	1,000	1,172	1,088	1,149	1,604	1,504	1,525

* See graph on page 4 hereinbefore.

2. **Variations in Price Levels of Commodity Groups.**—Since the last quarter of 1916, the price levels of seven of the eight groups, into which the commodities are classified, have risen, while that of only one, Group VI. (Meat) has fallen. The following table gives the index-numbers for the first and fourth quarters of 1916, and for the first quarter of 1917, together with the percentage increase or decrease of the index-numbers for the first quarter of 1917, compared with those for the fourth quarter of 1916 :—

Melbourne Wholesale Prices.—Index-Numbers for Quarter, January to March, 1917.

Group.	No. of Com- modities.	INDEX-NUMBERS.			Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) compared with Fourth Quarter of 1916.
		January to March, 1916.	Oct. to Dec., 1916.	Jan. to March, 1917.	
I. Metals and Coal ..	14	1,530	1,748	1,794	+ 2.6
II. Textiles, Leather, etc.	10	1,342	1,624	1,656	+ 2.0
III. Agricultural Produce	16	1,334	1,142	1,166	+ 2.1
IV. Dairy Produce ..	9	1,447	1,403	1,413	+ 0.7
V. Groceries & Tobacco	21	1,257	1,329	1,334	+ 0.4
VI. Meat	5	2,660	2,417	2,293	— 5.1
VII. Building Materials	10	1,417	1,520	1,569	+ 3.2
VIII. Chemicals	7	1,627	1,748	1,774	+ 1.5
All groups*	92	1,502	1,514	1,525	+ 0.7

* Weighted Average.

3. **Variations in Price Levels since the Outbreak of the War.**—The variations in the index-numbers of the separate commodity groups during the years 1915 and 1916, and up to the end of July, 1917, are shewn in the following table, in which the index-numbers for the years 1915 and 1916, and for the first seven months of 1917, are shewn, taking July, 1914, the last month before the outbreak of war, as base (= 1000) for each group :—

Melbourne Wholesale Prices, Index Numbers, July 1914, 1915, 1916 and July, 1917.

Particulars.	I. Metals and Coal.	II. Textiles, Leather, etc.	III. Agri- cultural Produce.	IV. Dairy Pro- duce.	V. Groceries	VI. Meat.	VII. Building Mater- ials.	VIII. Chem- icals.	All Groups
July, 1914 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Year 1915 ..	1,166	934	2,024	1,272	1,098	1,502	1,164	1,490	1,406
„ 1916 ..	1,539	1,307	1,130	1,235	1,266	1,551	1,361	1,716	1,318
January, 1917	1,604	1,475	1,126	1,157	1,290	1,449	1,397	1,714	1,330
February „	1,627	1,507	1,097	1,182	1,290	1,420	1,376	1,736	1,330
March „	1,659	1,587	1,052	1,180	1,293	1,400	1,501	1,756	1,344
April „	1,725	1,637	1,033	1,216	1,289	1,416	1,525	1,856	1,361
May „	1,772	1,645	1,043	1,227	1,291	1,383	1,551	1,960	1,371
June „	1,904	1,858	1,046	1,247	1,295	1,445	1,643	2,071	1,441
July „	2,006	1,980	1,048	1,204	1,302	1,469	1,775	2,173	1,483

SECTION V.—INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES.

1. **General.**—A complete review of the definitions and explanations of the terms “Strike” and “Lock-out,”* and the methods adopted for the collection of information relating to such industrial disputes, together with the principles adopted for the statistical classification and tabulations of the particulars thus furnished were given in Labour Report No. 7 (pp. 485-512).

In recording the number of working days lost,† the particulars given in the tables refer to the aggregate number of working days, exclusive of holidays and Sundays (except in those instances where continuous shifts are provided for) on which the persons involved in a dispute may have been employed. No allowance can, of course, be made for the possibility of short time during that period. This provision, if applied to coal mining, would possibly considerably reduce the number of working days considered as lost.‡ Further, it is assumed in all instances that work is constant, and that had no dispute occurred the persons taking part therein would have been continuously employed. It is known, that in some instances, *e.g.*, sheep-shearing, sugar-cane cutting, etc., that the amount of employment is limited, and the refusal to commence work on any specified date does not materially reduce the length of employment. These several features are also applicable to the particulars given with respect to the “Estimated Loss in Wages.” In the following table particulars are given for each quarter of 1916, and the 1st quarter of 1917, together with annual figures for the years 1913, 1914, 1915, and 1916 respectively for each State and for all States of (a) the number of disputes; (b) the number of establishments affected; (c) the number of workpeople directly and indirectly involved; (d) the number of working days lost, respectively, in new and old disputes; and (e) the estimated consequential loss in wages. It should be observed that the **annual** figures quoted include the total number of working days lost in respect of industrial disputes commenced in each year. For this reason the aggregate of the figures for the four quarters of any year would not necessarily agree with the annual figures, seeing that the quarterly figures relate to “all” disputes, whether commenced in the year or otherwise.

* For the purpose of these investigations a strike is defined as a concerted withdrawal from work by a part or all of the employees of an establishment, or of several establishments, with a view to enforcing a demand on the part of the employees, or of resisting some demand made by their employers. A lockout is a refusal on the part of an employer, or several employers, to permit a part or all of the employees to continue at work, such refusal being made to enforce a demand on the part of the employers, or to resist some demand made by their employees. Under these definitions certain stoppages of work are excluded, such for example as stop-work meetings and stoppages in which the relation of employer and employee does not exist.

† A working day is defined as the period of each 24 hours (prescribed by awards, etc., or established by common usage), representing the limitation which constitutes a full day's work. In mining, smelting, and other industries, where continuous work is carried on, a shift is taken as equivalent to a working day.

‡ In the coal mining areas in New South Wales, the amount of lost time during the year 1915 by dislocations, due to various causes, other than those contingent upon industrial disputes, aggregated upwards of 930,000 man working days, or more than double the working days (400,000) lost through industrial disputes see *N.S.W. Industrial Gazette*, February 1915, to January 1916, inclusive.

Industrial Disputes.—Number and Magnitude for each State and Territory.
Comparative particulars for the years 1913, 1914, 1915, and 1916, and for
the Quarterly periods of 1916 and 1917.

Periods.	No. of New Disputes.	No. of establishments involved in New Disputes.	No. of Workpeople involved in New Disputes.			No. of Working Days Lost. All Disputes.			Total Estimated loss in Wages. *	
			Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.	New Disputes.	Old Disputes.	Total.		
NEW SOUTH WALES.										
Year 1913	134	466	25,647	14,364	40,011	..	..	468,957	216,368
„ 1914	235	908	33,955	22,326	56,281	..	..	836,948	419,656
„ 1915	272	694	47,006	22,608	69,614	..	..	464,343	240,322
„ 1916	336	717	91,762	31,638	123,400	..	..	1,145,222	674,064
1st Quarter, 1916 ..	88	114	20,435	8,077	28,512	280,706	27,978	308,686	197,559	
2nd „ 1916 ..	74	204	10,309	8,160	18,469	79,145	61,356	140,501	75,106	
3rd „ 1916 ..	124	280	19,122	12,432	31,554	109,914	26,505	136,419	78,565	
4th „ 1916 ..	50	121	41,796	3,069	44,865	403,326	185,096	588,422	333,281	
1st Quarter, 1917 ..	76	83	9,985	4,633	14,618	43,546	25,860	69,406	38,569	
VICTORIA.										
Year 1913	29	63	4,151	2,026	6,177	..	..	85,212	35,744
„ 1914	44	164	5,699	1,352	7,051	..	..	84,106	39,619
„ 1915	38	154	5,434	809	6,243	..	..	64,878	28,476
„ 1916	55	449	13,576	2,092	15,668	..	..	228,269	114,683
1st Quarter, 1916 ..	17	48	2,575	112	2,687	31,609	1,200	32,809	16,490	
2nd „ 1916 ..	15	324	1,566	425	1,991	42,072	301	42,373	18,598	
3rd „ 1916 ..	12	13	534	986	1,520	15,668	1,242	16,910	9,461	
4th „ 1916 ..	11	64	8,901	569	9,470	70,281	5,524	75,805	38,939	
1st Quarter, 1917 ..	14	114	1,255	627	1,882	15,105	58,508	73,613	37,804	
QUEENSLAND.										
Year 1913	17	20	1,781	225	2,006	..	..	55,288	28,374
„ 1914	18	42	1,280	406	1,686	..	..	25,703	11,747
„ 1915	17	39	1,477	589	2,066	..	..	19,934	9,505
„ 1916	64	252	17,367	2,951	20,318	..	..	170,690	96,976
1st Quarter, 1916 ..	8	68	2,295	714	3,009	14,799	825	15,624	8,559	
2nd „ 1916 ..	16	18	2,572	965	3,537	20,122	26,000	46,122	25,383	
3rd „ 1916 ..	17	30	2,165	436	2,601	26,633	1,074	27,707	15,582	
4th „ 1916 ..	23	136	10,335	836	11,171	75,472	5,992	81,464	47,505	
1st Quarter, 1917 ..	13	18	1,176	60	1,236	3,714	598	4,312	2,559	
SOUTH AUSTRALIA.										
Year 1913	9	13	272	16	288	..	..	2,412	1,029
„ 1914	13	45	616	575	1,191	..	..	15,275	7,677
„ 1915	15	25	1,314	169	1,483	..	..	19,877	14,442
„ 1916	21	45	1,037	606	1,643	..	..	10,583	6,004
1st Quarter, 1916 ..	8	30	579	110	689	2,715	..	2,715	1,249	
2nd „ 1916 ..	8	10	193	38	231	765	28	793	422	
3rd „ 1916 ..	3	3	182	426	608	3,717	..	3,717	1,933	
4th „ 1916 ..	2	2	83	32	115	633	..	633	405	
1st Quarter, 1917 ..	5	11	474	33	507	896	2,651	3,547	2,523	

* Total estimated loss during the respective periods for all disputes.

NOTE.—The aggregates of the particulars for the four quarters of the year 1916 do not agree with the annual figures for the reasons stated on page 32 *ante*.

Industrial Disputes.—Number and Magnitude for each State and Territory.
Comparative particulars for the years 1913, 1914, 1915, and 1916, and for
Quarterly periods of 1916 and 1917.—cont.

Periods.	No. of New Disputes.	No. of establishments involved in New Disputes.	No. of Workpeople involved in New Disputes.			No. of Working Days Lost. All Disputes.			Total Estimated loss in Wages. * £
			Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.	New Disputes.	Old Disputes..	Total.	
WESTERN AUSTRALIA.									
Year 1913	9	324	967	..	967	..	..	6,772	3,515
" 1914	18	19	1,117	3,292	4,409	..	..	124,175	70,552
" 1915	6	20	578	68	646	..	..	4,068	2,294
" 1916	24	35	4,318	4,782	9,100	..	..	102,357	64,325
1st Quarter, 1916 ..	10	14	2,015	3,213	5,228	77,833	..	77,833	50,428
2nd " 1916 ..	6	6	164	90	254	2,449	2,610	5,059	3,138
3rd " 1916 ..	3	10	2,032	1,461	3,493	17,432	1,206	18,638	10,272
4th " 1916 ..	5	5	107	18	125	507	72	579	332
1st Quarter, 1917 ..	8	18	382	66	448	842	248	1,090	637
TASMANIA.									
Year 1913	8	30	444	20	464	..	..	987	434
" 1914	6	22	288	25	313	..	..	3,286	1,459
" 1915	2	2	922	..	922	..	..	4,808	2,174
" 1916	6	36	366	68	434	..	..	21,389	11,207
1st Quarter, 1916 ..	3	32	168	50	218	3,884	..	3,884	2,178
2nd " 1916 ..	2	2	53	..	53	217	11,850	12,067	6,639
3rd " 1916 ..	1	2	145	18	163	4,238	1,200	5,438	2,390
1st Quarter, 1917 ..	3	4	77	13	90	1,553	..	1,553	692
NORTHERN TERRITORY.									
Year 1913	1	4	131	39	170	..	..	2,500	1,675
" 1914	2	2	68	..	68	..	..	552	348
" 1915	7	7	254	44	298	..	..	5,237	2,365
" 1916	2	2	120	..	120	..	..	420	345
1st Quarter, 1916 ..	1	1	60	..	60	60	135	195	84
4th " 1916 ..	1	1	60	..	60	360	..	360	300
1st Quarter, 1917 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY.									
Year 1913	1	1	100	100	200	..	..	1,400	600
" 1914	1	1	50	..	50	..	..	350	170
" 1915	1	1	20	..	20	..	..	80	55
" 1916 .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
COMMONWEALTH.									
Year 1913	208	921	33,493	16,790	50,283	..	..	623,528	287,739
" 1914	337	1,203	43,075	27,976	71,049	..	..	1,090,395	551,228
" 1915	358	942	57,005	24,287	81,293	..	..	583,225	299,633
" 1916	508	1,536	128,546	42,137	170,683	..	..	1,678,930	967,604
1st Quarter, 1916 ..	132	275	27,959	12,226	40,185	407,724	30,138	437,862	274,369
2nd " 1916 ..	122	594	14,972	9,728	24,700	148,437	90,295	238,732	124,825
3rd " 1916 ..	161	338	24,088	15,741	39,829	173,581	41,877	215,458	122,452
4th " 1916 ..	93	331	61,427	4,542	65,969	554,817	197,884	752,701	423,152
1st Quarter, 1917 ..	119	248	13,349	5,432	18,781	65,656	87,865	153,521	82,784

* Total estimated loss during the respective periods for all disputes.

NOTE.—The aggregates of the particulars for the four quarters of the year 1916 do not agree with the annual figures for the reasons stated on page 32 *ante*.

Industrial Disputes.—Number and Magnitude of Industrial Disputes in Each State and Territory of the Commonwealth, 1st Quarter, 1917, and Comparative Particulars for the preceding Quarter and for the corresponding Quarter, 1916.

State.	No. of New Disputes	No. of Establishments Involved in New Disputes	No. of Workpeople Involved in New Disputes.			No. of Working Days Lost.			Total Estimated Loss in Wages *£	
			Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.	New Disputes.	Old Disputes.	Total.		
New South Wales	76	83	9,985	4,633	14,618	43,546	25,860	69,406	38,569	
Victoria	14	114	1,255	627	1,882	15,105	58,508	73,613	37,804	
Queensland	13	18	1,176	60	1,236	3,714	598	4,312	2,559	
South Australia	5	11	474	33	507	896	2,651	3,547	2,523	
Western Australia	8	18	382	66	448	842	248	1,090	637	
Tasmania	3	4	77	13	90	1,553	..	1,553	692	
Total C'wealth.	1st Quarter, 1917	119	248	13,349	5,432	18,781	65,656	87,865	153,521	82,784
	4th Quarter, 1916	93	331	61,427	4,542	65,659	55,481	197,884	752,701	423,152
	1st Quarter, 1916	132	275	27,959	12,226	40,185	40,724	30,138	437,862	274,369

* Total loss during the quarter for all disputes, new and old.

New industrial disputes tabulated for the quarter ended 31st March, 1917, number 119, being 26 in excess of the number recorded during the previous quarter.

The number of persons directly and indirectly involved in these disputes totalled 18,781. 65,656 working days were lost in consequence of disputes commenced during the period under review, while 87,865 were lost through disputes which commenced prior to the 1st of January, but which were in existence during the first quarter. The total loss in working days during the quarter was 153,521, causing an estimated loss in wages of £82,784. Although the number of disputes was greater, the losses in working days and wages were considerably lower than those during the preceding quarter.

Industrial Disputes.—Number and Magnitude of Industrial Disputes in the Commonwealth, classified in Industrial Groups, 1st Quarter, 1917.

Industrial Group.	No. of New Disputes.	No. of Establishments Involved	No. of Workpeople Involved in New Disputes.			No. of Working Days Lost.			Total Estimated Loss in Wages *£
			Directly.	Indirectly.	Total	New Disputes.	Old Disputes.	Total.	
I. Wood, Furniture, Timber, etc. ..	3	77	127	7	134	1,179	..	1,179	597
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. ..	4	4	475	102	577	4,111	78,234	82,345	42,653
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. ..	7	18	838	68	906	2,420	..	2,420	1,228
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	12	13	922	1,512	2,434	6,622	2,512	9,134	4,965
VII. Building	3	3	47	2	49	126	..	126	68
VIII. Mines, Quarries, etc. ..	52	63	8,530	3,503	12,033	38,178	4,004	42,182	26,139
IX. Railway and Tramway Services	9	9	668	87	755	6,591	..	6,591	2,526
XI. Shipping, Wharf Labour, etc. ..	11	14	744	89	833	2,326	..	2,326	1,207
XII. Pastoral, Agric'l., etc.	8	36	425	59	484	2,475	272	2,747	1,465
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	1	1	127	..	127	635	..	635	140
XIV. Miscellaneous	9	10	446	3	449	993	2,843	3,836	1,796
All Groups	119	248	13,349	5,432	18,781	65,656	87,865	153,521	82,784

* Total loss during the quarter for all disputes, new and old.

The industrial classification in the above table is that adopted in connection with labour organisations, unemployment, wages, etc. (see Labour Report, No. 7, p. 334).

Corresponding particulars of industrial disputes have been published in Labour Bulletins Nos. 1 to 16, inclusive.

Of the 119 disputes which commenced during the quarter under review, 52 (about 44 per cent.) involved employees in the Mining and Quarrying industries (Group VIII.); 12 affected persons engaged in industries classified under Other Manufacturing (Group VI.); 11 involved workpeople employed in Shipping and Wharf Labour, etc. (Group XI.); 9 disputes were classified as affecting Railway and Tramway Services (Group IX.), while the same number of dislocations were classified in Group XIV. (Miscellaneous). The next highest number of disputes in classified groups were :—8 in Group XII. (Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.); 7 in Group III. (Food, Drink, etc.); and 4 in Group II. (Engineering, Metal Works, etc.).

The greatest number of working days was lost by workpeople engaged in Engineering and Metal Works (Group II.). The ironmoulders' disputes in New South Wales and Victoria were responsible for the greater part of the loss in this group.

Of the fifteen disputes which were pending at the end of the year, 1916, 12 terminated during the quarter under review. At the end of March eight disputes were pending, five of which commenced during the first quarter of the year.

Particulars of Principal Disputes recorded during the 1st Quarter, 1917.—Summarised particulars are furnished in tabular form (on pages 39 to 49 herein) of all disputes recorded in the tabulations for the first quarter of the year 1917, together with additional information relating to those disputes which remained in progress at the commencement of that period. In the following paragraphs these particulars are briefly reviewed with respect to disputes in each State.

(i.) *New South Wales.*—During the quarter under review 76 new disputes occurred in this State. Five disputes which commenced prior to the 1st January extended into the first quarter of 1917. Of these disputes four terminated during the quarter. The ironmoulders' dispute, which commenced in September, 1916, was settled in January. The trouble at the Richmond Main Colliery, which had been idle for some months, terminated in February, when work was resumed on the terms of

an Order of the War Precautions Coal Board. Of the 76 new disputes, 48 involved employees in the mining and quarrying industries. The majority of these stoppages were of short duration, no less than 33 lasting for one day only. Shale miners at Airly were engaged in a dispute over wages during January. After a stoppage of three weeks increased rates were granted. The Mount Kembla Colliery was idle for a week during March owing to a dispute concerning non-unionists. Work was resumed by Order of the War Precautions Coal Board. During March mining engine drivers at the Tintal Mines, Elouera, objected to work with a certain shift boss. After a stoppage lasting over a week a satisfactory understanding was arrived at, and work was resumed.

Railway construction workers at Red Hill, Coff's Harbour, stopped work in January as a protest against the dismissal of an employee alleged to have been victimised. Work was resumed on antecedent conditions after a stoppage of three weeks. Wheat lumpers at Old Junee claimed increased rates of wages, which were refused. The men's places were filled. Wood and coal labourers at Balmain were successful during January in securing increased rates of pay after a stoppage of work. Ironworkers at Lithgow were involved in a dispute during January. The cause of the trouble was a claim for increased pay and the re-instatement of certain men. After negotiations, satisfactory terms were arranged and work was resumed. Work in one section of the Small Arms Factory was stopped during February, owing to the objection of the employees to the promotion of a certain man. Work was resumed on the man being sent back to his original position.

(ii.) *Victoria*.—Fourteen disputes commenced in this State during the quarter, while five disputes which commenced prior to the 1st January were unfinished at that date. The ironmoulders' dispute terminated at the end of March after a stoppage extending over 18 weeks. Work was resumed after a conference, at which an increase in the rates of wage was granted. The principal disputes which commenced during the quarter involved coopers employed on the Melbourne wharves, coal miners at Jumbunna, wheat threshers at Werribee, wheat lumpers at Dimboola and Brooklyn, waitresses at Melbourne, sewerage works labourers at Malvern and Heidelberg, and water pipe layers at West Footscray. Quarrymen were involved in a stoppage of work during March. The cause of the trouble was an award of the Court of Industrial Appeals whereby the hours of labour were increased from 44 to 48 hours per week. This dispute caused serious delay in the making and repairing of roads, while building operations were also affected. A number of municipal labourers, carters and others were thrown out of work. The dispute was pending at the end of the quarter.

(iii.) *Queensland*.—In this State thirteen new disputes commenced during the first three months of the year. Three disputes which were pending at the end of 1916 terminated during the first quarter of 1917. Meat works, employees at Brisbane were idle in February owing to the refusal of the employers to meet the representatives of three Unions as one body instead of separately. The questions in dispute were wages

and working conditions. On a compulsory conference under the State Industrial Act being called, work was resumed. The Oona-Dobbyn railway construction works were delayed for a week during January. The horse drivers refused to help to fill drays. The men resumed work on the advice of the Union officials, as the agreement made provision that drivers were to assist in filling drays. A claim for increased wages was granted to railway construction workers on the Duchess-Sulieman Creek line after a stoppage of three days. Casual coal loaders at the railway yards, Roma, received increased rates of pay after a dispute which caused a stoppage of work for a week. Clerks and shop assistants at Townsville ceased duty as a protest against the dismissal of a female employee who was alleged to have been victimised. The employee was reinstated after a conference between the representatives of the employers and employees. Wharf labourers, shearers, cement workers and builders' labourers were also involved in disputes during the quarter.

(iv.) *South Australia*.—Five disputes occurred during the quarter. Two disputes which were pending at the end of December terminated early in the year. Coal lumpers at Port Pirie claimed higher rates of pay for handling coal which was alleged to be dusty. After a delay of two days increased rates of pay were offered and accepted. Wheat stackers at Port Adelaide were granted increased wages after a stoppage of four days. An agreement regulating the wages and working conditions of such workers was also made. Two disputes involving workers on the East-West Railway line were recorded during the quarter.

(v.) *Western Australia*.—Eight new disputes commenced in this State during the first three months of the year. The dispute involving riveters and others at Fremantle, which was pending at the end of December, terminated early in January. Engine drivers at the electric light station, Boulder, stopped work as a protest against a proposed reduction of staff on the night shift. Work was resumed on antecedent conditions. Five other disputes, which were of short duration, involved slaughtermen and wharf labourers at Fremantle, wheat stackers at Bunbury, drain repairers at Perth, and boilermakers on the East-West Railway.

(vi.) *Tasmania*.—In this State three disputes occurred during the quarter under review. Timber workers at Hobart and Oakwood were involved in two disputes. In one case the cause of the trouble was the appointment of a new foreman, while in the other case the men stopped work as a protest against the employment of non-unionists. The men were successful in each dispute. Wharf labourers at Hobart were idle during January owing to a dispute regarding the system of payment. The men refused to handle coal on tonnage rates unless the terms of the agreement were carried out, *i.e.*, all coal to be handled on tonnage rates. It appears that certain permanent men were employed on weekly wages. After a conference between representatives of the employers and employees a satisfactory understanding was reached, and work was resumed.

Particulars of Industrial Disputes recorded during the 1st Quarter, 1917.

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	No. of Workpeople Involved.		Dates of Commencement and Termination	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.			
N. S. Wales.					
<i>Kurri Kurri.</i> Richmond Main Colliery—Miners	*	*	20th Aug. 1915, to 17th Feb. 1917.	Objection to tonnage rates for hewing.	Work resumed on terms of Order by War Precautions Coal Board.
<i>Darlinghurst.</i> United Theatres Limited—Musicians.	†	†	1st Jan., 1916.	Objection to playing with a mechanical instrument.	Pending at end of March, 1917.
<i>Newnes.</i> Coal and Shale Mining—Surface Workers.	‡	‡	7th April, 1916, to 31st Mar. 1917.	To enforce the payment of increased rates of pay.	Satisfactory agreement made.
<i>Whole State.</i> Iron Moulding—Moulders.	§	§	25th Sept. 1916, to 13th Jan. 1917.	To enforce the payment of an increased rate of wage.	Compromise. Claim partially conceded.
<i>Sydney.</i> State Trawlers—Masters and Engineers.	††	††	15th Nov. 1916, to 28th Feb. 1917.	To enforce payment of increased rates of pay.	Men's places filled.
<i>East Moree.</i> Wool Scouring—Scourers.	††	††	15th Dec. 1916, to 20th Jan. 1917.	To enforce the payment of an increased rate of wage.	Men's places filled.
<i>Riverstone.</i> Slaughtering—Mutton Butchers.	108	..	1st Jan. to 3rd Jan.	To enforce the payment of an increased rate of wage.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>Sydney.</i> Coal Lumping—Lumpers.	50	..	2nd Jan. to 9th Jan.	To increase number of men in gang from 5 to 6.	Work resumed pending hearing before Industrial Board.
Retail Butchering—Shopmen.	3	..	2nd Jan. to 5th Jan.	Objection to alteration in working hours.	Men's places filled.
<i>Clifton</i> Coalcliff Colliery—Miners.	240	15	2nd Jan.	Alteration of starting time caused by "Daylight Saving."	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>Airly.</i> Commonwealth Oil Corporation—Shale Miners.	7	8	2nd Jan. to 27th Jan.	To enforce the payment of an increased rate of wage.	Demand conceded.
<i>Riverstone.</i> Slaughtering—Slaughtermen's Labourers and Others.	108	..	5th Jan. to 6th Jan.	Claim by labourers for payment for time lost during dispute with mutton butchers.	Work resumed. No payment made.

* See Labour Bulletin No. 11, page 241. † See Labour Bulletin No. 14, page 151.

† See Labour Bulletin No. 13, page 43. § See Labour Bulletin No. 15, page 266.

†† See Labour Bulletin No. 16, p.p. 516-17.

Particulars of Industrial Disputes recorded during the 1st Quarter, 1917.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	No. of Workpeople Involved.		Dates of Commencement and Termination	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.			
N. S. Wales— <i>cont.</i>					
<i>Old Junee.</i> Wheat Stacking.—Stackers.	21	5	8th Jan. to 22nd Jan.	To enforce payment of an increased rate of wage.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>Portland.</i> Cement Making—Cement Workers.	123	..	8th Jan.	Claim for abolition of early shift commencing one hour earlier than ordinary shift.	Compromise. Payment of time and a half for first hour of early shift.
<i>Red Hill.</i> Railway Construction—Labourers.	200	..	8th Jan. to 1st Feb.	Alleged victimization of an employee.	Work resumed. Employee not reinstated.
<i>Bulli.</i> Bulli Colliery—Miners.	87	69	9th Jan.	Alleged victimization of two miners.	Men reinstated.
<i>Balmain.</i> Fuel Trade—Wood and Coal Labourers.	8	..	10th Jan. to 2nd Feb.	To enforce payment of increased rates of wage.	Demand conceded.
<i>Cardiff.</i> Lymington Colliery—Miners.	100	..	10th Jan.	Imperfect ventilation and other grievances.	Amicable arrangement.
<i>Dapto.</i> Railway Construction—Carters and Labourers.	8	87	12th Jan. to 13th Jan.	To enforce the payment of increased rates of wage.	Demand conceded.
<i>Scarborough.</i> South Clifton Tunnel Colliery—Clipper Boys and Others.	21	200	15th Jan.	To enforce the payment of an increased wage to a clipper boy.	Demand conceded.
<i>Lithgow.</i> Ironworking—Ironworkers.	332	..	20th Jan. to 30th Jan.	(1) Demand for reinstatement of three dismissed employees; (2) Claim for 20% increase in wages.	(1) Men reinstated; (2) Increase granted.
<i>Glenreagh-Dorrigo.</i> Railway Construction—Tunnelmen.	48	..	24th Jan. to 26th Jan.	Withdrawal of assistance for jack-hammer men.	Assistance to be given in awkward places.
<i>Coledale.</i> Nth. Bulli Colliery—Miners.	350	..	24th Jan.	Demand for reinstatement to position of examiner of an employee who had been transferred to other work.	Demand conceded.
<i>Broken Hill.</i> North Mine—Truckers and Fillers.	554	..	24th Jan. to 26th Jan.	Demand for extra help for truckers.	Demand conceded.
<i>Broken Hill.</i> De Bavey's Mine—Miners.	270	..	24th Jan. to 25th Jan.	Objection to a certain employee.	Employee resigned.

Particulars of Industrial Disputes recorded during the 1st Quarter, 1917.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	No. of Workpeople Involved.		Dates of Commencement and Termination	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.			
N. S. Wales—<i>cont.</i>					
<i>Balmain.</i> Chemical Works.— Carters.	21	..	29th Jan. to 1st Feb.	Demand for reinstatement of a dismissed employee.	Work resumed. Employee not reinstated.
<i>Woonona.</i> Brickmaking— Brickmakers.	20	..	31st Jan. to 1st Feb.	To enforce the payment of an increased rate of wage.	Demand not granted.
<i>Glebe Island.</i> Wholesale Butchering— Slaughtermen.	12	..	31st Jan. to 6th Mar.	Sympathy with retail shopmen.	Work resumed.
<i>Bellbird.</i> Bellbird Colliery— Miners.	229	23	1st Feb.	To enforce the payment of day's wage to driver sent home for refusing to clip.	Demand conceded.
<i>Everleigh.</i> Railway Workshops Shop Boys.	74	100	1st Feb. to 6th Feb.	Protest against dismissal of boy for refusing to perform certain work alleged to be too heavy.	Work resumed. Boy reinstated.
<i>Wagga.</i> Waterworks— Labourers.	15	..	2nd Feb. to 3rd Feb.	Objection to youth employed in cleaning concrete board using shovel.	Work resumed on old conditions.
<i>Mirrourl.</i> Wheat Stacking— Stackers.	11	..	3rd Feb. to 10th Feb.	Against reduction in pay from 7s. to 6s. per 100 bags.	Compromise. Men to be paid 7s. per 100 into stacks, and 6s. per 100 into trucks.
<i>Taree.</i> Limestone Quarrying— Quarrymen.	21	..	5th Feb. to 6th Feb.	Against reduction in pay.	No reduction to be made.
<i>Minmi.</i> Back Creek Colliery— Miners.	220	20	5th Feb. to 9th Feb.	Refusal to work with boys who declined to pay fines imposed by Lodge for doing surface work when mine was idle.	Boys agreed to pay fines.
<i>Lithgow.</i> Vale of Clwydd Colliery— Miners and Others.	110	..	5th Feb.	Boys declined to work owing to refusal of management to provide them with work on Pay Saturday.	Work to be given boys on Pay Saturday when practicable.
<i>Woonona and Bellambi</i> Brickmaking— Brickmakers.	56	..	6th Feb. to 7th Mar	To enforce the payment of an increase on Award rates of wage.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>Scarborough.</i> Sth Clifton and Sth.Clifton Tunnel Collieries— Miners.	349	9	7th Feb.	Demand for reinstatement of dismissed employee.	Employee reinstated.

Particulars of Industrial Disputes recorded during the 1st Quarter, 1917.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	No. of Workpeople Involved.		Dates of Commencement and Termination	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.			
N. S. Wales—<i>cont.</i>					
<i>Lithgow.</i> Small Arms Factory— Engineers and Others.	53	..	7th Feb. to 12th Feb.	Objection to promotion of certain employee to position of section hand.	Employee returned to his original position.
<i>Waterloo and Alexandria.</i> Glassmaking— Glassworkers.	166	650	8th Feb. to 10th Feb.	To enforce the payment of an increased rate of wage.	Demand conceded.
<i>Neath.</i> Neath Colliery— Wheelers and Others.	15	129	12th Feb.	Wheelers alleged horse to be unfit.	Horse withdrawn.
<i>Waterloo.</i> Glassmaking— Glassblowers' Assistants.	115	650	12th Feb. to 13th Feb.	To enforce the payment of an increased rate of wage.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>Broken Hill.</i> De Bavey's Mine— Miners.	280	436	12th Feb. to 18th Feb.	Alleged victimization of an employee.	Work resumed. Employee not reinstated.
<i>Dudley.</i> Dudley Colliery— Miners.	200	23	14th Feb.	Dismissal of driver for ceasing work before usual time.	Man not re-employed
<i>Bulli.</i> Bulli Colliery— Miners.	92	110	15th Feb. to 19th Feb.	Refusal to use machines to cut coal in certain places.	Resumed work on Inspector reporting mine to be safe.
<i>Thirroul.</i> Excelsior Colliery— Wheelers and Others.	18	197	15th Feb. to 16th Feb.	Demand for guarantee of full shift or full shift pay.	Demand not granted.
<i>Pelaw Main.</i> Pelaw Main Colliery— Clippers & Others.	40	300	19th Feb.	To enforce payment of an increased rate of wage for overtime worked.	Demand not granted.
<i>Scarborough.</i> South Clifton Colliery— Miners.	121	68	22nd Feb. to 24th Feb.	Objection to working conditions <i>re</i> haulage.	Work resumed after conference.
<i>Kurri Kurri.</i> Kurri Co-operative Society— Shop Assistants and Carters.	70	..	22nd Feb.	Protest against an accusation made by an official of the Society concerning an employee.	Official expressed regret.
<i>Weston.</i> Hebburn Colliery— Wheelers and Others.	7	83	23rd Feb.	Objection to miners entering colliery before whistle blew.	Resumed work on following day.
<i>Redhead.</i> Burwood Extended Colliery— Wheelers and Others.	74	..	26th Feb.	(1) Claim for "water money." (2) Reinstatement of dismissed employee.	Demands conceded.

Particulars of Industrial Disputes recorded during the 1st Quarter, 1917.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	No. of Workpeople Involved.		Dates of Commencement and Termination	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.			
N. S. Wales—<i>cont.</i>					
<i>East Greta.</i> Engineering— Mechanics.	16	2	26th Feb. to 7th Mar.	Protest against exclusion from Award.	Appeal to be lodged.
<i>Bellbird.</i> Bellbird Colliery— Miners.	226	25	26th Feb.	Claim by machine men for payment for time lost.	Work resumed on following day.
<i>Boolaroo.</i> Stockton Borehole Colliery— Wheelers & Others.	240	..	26th Feb.	Wheeler allegedly put on coal out of his turn.	Work resumed on following day.
<i>Neath.</i> Neath Colliery— Miners.	2	183	26th Feb. to 1st Mar.	Onsetters allegedly not paid Award rates of wage.	Claim conceded.
<i>Cardiff.</i> Lymington Colliery Miners.	90	..	28th Feb.	Objection to imposition of dirt scale.	Matter referred to War Precautions Coal Board.
<i>Sydney.</i> Palace Theatre— Musicians—	16	..	3rd Feb.	Protest against reduction of orchestra	Work resumed. No reduction made.
<i>Sydney.</i> S.S. "Luckenbach." Waterside Workers	15	27	5th Mar.	To enforce the payment of an increased rate of wage for handling case oil.	Demand conceded.
<i>Kandos.</i> Cement Making— Labourers.	155	..	6th Mar. to 12th Mar.	Demand for reinstatement of a dismissed employee.	Employee not reinstated.
<i>Wallsend.</i> Coke Making— Coke Workers.	11	3	8th Mar. to 10th Mar.	To enforce the payment of increased rates of wage.	Demand conceded.
<i>Mt. Keira.</i> Mt. Keira Colliery Miners.	270	10	12th Mar.	Alleged refusal to pay certain employees the minimum wage.	Matter referred to War Precautions Coal Board.
<i>Mt. Kembla.</i> Mt. Kembla Colliery Miners.	300	..	12th Mar. to 19th Mar.	Refusal of two men to join Union.	Men joined Union by order of the War Precautions Coal Board.
<i>Scarborough.</i> Sth. Clifton Colliery Wheelers & Others.	28	162	12th Mar.	On previous Pay Saturday miners were called to work and not the wheelers. Wheelers protested.	Work resumed next day.
<i>Thirroul.</i> Excelsior Colliery— Wheelers & Others.	16	169	13th Mar.	Wheelers wanted wages in lieu of contract work; also their share of Saturday work.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.

Particulars of Industrial Disputes recorded during the 1st Quarter, 1917.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	No. of Workpeople Involved.		Dates of Commencement and Termination	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.			
N. S. Wales—<i>cont.</i>					
<i>Burwood.</i> Burwood Colliery— Miners and Others.	176	56	13th Mar.	Dispute <i>re</i> cavil.	Men concerned given pick of places not cavilled for.
<i>Abermain.</i> Abermain No. 1 Colliery— Clippers and Others.	500	..	13th Mar.	Refusal of clippers to work more than eight hours a day.	Meeting of Lodge decided that clippers to work the hours required by management.
<i>Pelaw Main.</i> Pelaw Main Colliery Miners and Others.	750	..	14th Mar. to 26th Mar.	Dispute <i>re</i> abolition of afternoon shift, and <i>re</i> cavil for day shift.	Work resumed. One shift only worked.
<i>Weston.</i> Hebburn Colliery— Miners.	102	74	15th Mar.	Tunnel miners not allowed to "grunch."	Work resumed as usual on following day
<i>Bellbird.</i> Bellbird Colliery— Miners.	218	20	16th Mar.	Dispute <i>re</i> cavil.	Work resumed on following working day.
<i>Pelaw Main.</i> Richmond Main Colliery— Miners and Others.	109	..	19th Mar. to 27th Mar.	Cessation of private train to colliery in accordance with order of War Precautions Coal Board.	Train to run pending re-reference of matter to Coal Board.
<i>Scarborough.</i> Sth. Clifton and Sth. Clifton Tunnel Collieries— Miners.	450	..	19th Mar.	Men demand that certain men dismissed from one colliery be employed at the other colliery.	Men, if competent, to have preference over newcomers.
<i>Coledale.</i> Nth. Bulli Colliery— Miners.	378	..	21st Mar.	Alleged victimization.	Employee reinstated.
<i>Sydney.</i> Waterside Working Waterside Workers.	80	..	22nd Mar. to 24th Mar.	Refusal to work with non-unionists.	Men objected to replaced by unionists.
<i>Burwood.</i> Burwood Colliery— Clipper Boys and Others.	15	217	22nd Mar.	Demand for installation of telephone throughout colliery.	Work resumed as usual next day.
<i>Helensburgh.</i> Metropolitan Colliery— Miners & Others.	30	311	23rd Mar.	Demand for reinstatement of dismissed rope boy.	Demand not conceded
<i>Elouera.</i> C.S.A. Mine— Engine Drivers.	120	..	23rd Mar. to 31st Mar.	Refusal to work with a certain foreman.	Work resumed on old conditions.
<i>Bellbird.</i> Bellbird Colliery— Miners.	209	29	23rd Mar.	Dispute <i>re</i> cavil.	Work resumed. Men's representatives drew cavil.

Particulars of Industrial Disputes recorded during the 1st Quarter, 1917.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	No. of Workpeople Involved.		Dates of Commencement and Termination	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.			
<i>Scarborough.</i> Sth. Clifton Colliery— Miners and Others.	19	153	26th Mar.	Wheelers wanted to travel to work by rope road.	Wheelers to use proper travelling road.
<i>Newcastle.</i> Coal Loading— Labourers.	30	..	27th Mar. to 29th Mar.	Demand that award in lieu of piece rates be paid.	Award rates paid.
<i>Swansea.</i> Nth. Wallarah Colliery— Miners.	15	10	27th Mar.	Objection to working singly in a bord.	Men to work in pairs.
<i>Dudley.</i> Dudley Colliery— Miners & Others.	256	..	28th Mar.	Dispute <i>re</i> working places.	Work resumed next day.
<i>Killingworth.</i> Coal Loading— Labourers.	16	..	29th Mar.	To enforce the payment of an increased rate of wage.	Pending at end of March, 1917.
<i>Newnes.</i> Coal and Shale Mining— Miners.	100	..	31st Mar.	Demand that coal and shale be cavilled together.	Work resumed pending decision of Conciliation Board.
Victoria.					
<i>Williamstown.</i> State Dockyard— Shipwrights and Carpenters.	*	*	3rd May, 1916.	Against employment of non-union workers.	Pending at end of March, 1917.
<i>Whole State.</i> Iron Moulding— Moulders and Others.	†	†	17th Nov. 1916, to 28th Mar., 1917.	Originally refusal of men to handle castings intended for transmission to New South Wales, in which State moulders were involved in a dispute and later claim for increased rates of wage.	Settled by conference. Increases in wages granted.
<i>Camperdown.</i> Local Authority— Stone Crushers.	†	†	4th Dec., 1916, to 31st Jan., 1917.	To enforce the payment of an increased rate of wage.	Work to be done by contract.
<i>Crib Point.</i> Naval Base— Sewer Labourers.	†	†	4th Dec., 1916.	Refusal to work under Award of Industrial Court of Appeals by which hours were increased from 44 to 48 per week.	Pending at end of March, 1917.
<i>Gaffney's Creek.</i> Gold Mining— Miners.	†	†	13th Dec. 1916, to 10th Jan. 1917.	Refusal to work drills singlehanded.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.

* See Labour Bulletin No. 14, page 157.

† See Labour Bulletin No. 16, pages 518-9.

Particulars of Industrial Disputes recorded during the 1st Quarter, 1917.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	No. of Workpeople Involved.		Dates of Commencement and Termination	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.			
Victoria—<i>cont.</i>					
<i>Malvern and Heidelberg.</i> Sewer Construction— Labourers.	65	..	8th Jan. to 16th Jan.	Refusal to work under Award of Industrial Court of Appeals, by which hours were increased from 44 to 48 per week.	Work resumed. Working week to consist of 44 hours.
<i>Werribee and Other Districts.</i> Grain Threshing— Threshers.	96	..	15th Jan. to 27th Jan.	To enforce payment of an increase of 3½d. in the hourly rate of wage.	Men's places filled.
<i>Dimboola.</i> Wheat Stacking— Stackers.	12	..	24th Jan. to 31st Jan.	To enforce the payment of an increased rate of wage.	Men's places filled.
<i>Melbourne.</i> Coopers engaged on Wharves.	90	..	27th Jan. to 5th Feb.	Men required to sign a register and to have name affixed on outside of any bag taken on to the wharf.	Men to sign register, but name to be affixed on inside of bag.
<i>Yarraville.</i> S.S. "Koonya."— Stevedores.	32	..	29th Jan. to 30th Jan.	To enforce payment of an increased hourly rate of wage.	Demand conceded.
<i>Spotswood.</i> Glass Bottle Making Bottle Blowers.	89	59	7th Feb.	Dispute as to number of bottles made.	Half of number claimed credited to blowers.
<i>Colac.</i> Local Authority— Quarrymen.	9	..	20th Feb. to 2nd Mar.	To enforce payment of an increased rate of wage.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>Brooklyn.</i> Wheat Stacking— Stackers.	140	24	6th Mar.	Refusal to board morning train. Protest against train being late on previous night.	Work resumed on following day.
<i>West Footscray.</i> Metropolitan Board of Works— Sewerage Workers	8	..	12th Mar. to 16th Mar.	Men demanded payment of train fares from Melbourne.	Demand conceded.
<i>Metropolitan and Other Districts.</i> Quarrying— Quarrymen and Others.	286	384	14th Mar.	Refusal to work under Award of Court of Industrial Appeals by which hours were increased from 44 to 48 per week.	Pending at end of March, 1917.
<i>Melbourne.</i> Sargents Ltd.— Waitresses.	127	..	15th Mar. to 20th Mar.	To enforce a reduction in the amount charged for board.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.

Particulars of Industrial Disputes recorded during the 1st Quarter, 1917.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	No. of Workpeople Involved.		Dates of Commencement and Termination	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.			
Victoria—<i>cont.</i>					
<i>Spotswood.</i> Glass Bottle Making— Bottle Blowers and Others.	110	150	15th Mar.	Protest against dismissal of four sorters.	All employees resumed work on following day.
<i>Jumbunna.</i> Coalmining— Miners.	106	10	20th Mar. to 29th Mar.	Dispute <i>re</i> deficient places.	Matter settled by War Precautions Coal Board.
<i>Mildura.</i> Fruit— Shed Hands.	85	..	28th Mar. to 31st Mar.	Refusal of employer to sign agreement.	Agreement signed.
Queensland.					
<i>Brisbane.</i> Telephone Service Conduit Workers.	*	*	2nd Aug., 1916 to 10th Jan., 1917.	To enforce the payment of increased rates of wage.	Men's places filled.
<i>Cairns.</i> Sugar Manufacture. Mechanics.	†	†	17th Oct., 1916, to 31st Jan., 1917.	Sympathy with field workers, but subsequently claimed back money.	Men's places filled.
<i>Townsville.</i> Locomotive Sheds— Boilermakers.	†	†	9th Nov., 1916, to 17th Feb., 1917.	Withdrawal of "dirt" money pending enquiry by Royal Commission.	Men informed "dirt" money would be paid.
<i>Dajarra.</i> Railway Construction— Labourers.	100	..	18th Jan. to 22nd Jan.	To enforce payment of 14s. in lieu of 12s. 3d. per day.	Demand conceded.
<i>Townsville.</i> Rooneys Ltd.— Clerks and Others.	23	..	19th Jan. to 20th Jan.	Alleged victimization of an employee.	Dismissed employee reinstated.
<i>Oona-Dobbyn.</i> Railway Construction— Labourers.	240	..	22nd Jan. to 27th Jan.	Horse drivers refused to fill drays.	Drivers to fill drays.
<i>Brisbane.</i> Waterside Working Waterside Workers	117	..	30th Jan.	Claim for payment for holiday (not worked).	No payment made.
<i>Cannon Hill.</i> Munition Factory. Builders' Labourers	11	..	2nd Feb.	Objection to regulations regarding smoking.	No smoking on job, but two "smoke-ohs" of 5 minutes each daily conceded
<i>Brisbane.</i> Meat Export— Slaughtermen and Others.	460	60	9th Feb. to 10th Feb.	Protest against the refusal of employers to meet the representatives of three unions as one body instead of separately. Wages and working conditions in dispute.	Work resumed on compulsory conference being called.

* See Labour Bulletin No. 15, pp. 268.

† See Labour Bulletin No. 16, pp. 519-21.

Particulars of Industrial Disputes recorded during the 1st Quarter, 1917—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	No. of Workpeople involved.		Dates of Commencement and Termination	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.			
Queensland—cont.					
<i>Townsville.</i> Waterside Working Waterside Workers.	30	..	12th Feb. to 14th Feb.	To enforce payment of increased rates for handling kerosene.	Demand conceded.
<i>Roma.</i> Railway Yards— Coalmen.	5	..	12th Feb. to 19th Feb.	To enforce payment of an increased rate of wage for casual hands.	Demand conceded.
<i>Gore.</i> Cement Making— Mill Hands.	6	..	6th Mar. to 13th Mar.	Demand for dismissal of unfinancial member of union.	Employee paid union dues.
<i>Rockhampton.</i> Waterside Working. Waterside Workers	95	..	12th Mar. to 15th Mar.	To enforce payment of travelling time.	Demand conceded.
<i>Prairie.</i> Woodbine Station— Shearers.	20	..	19th Mar. to 24th Mar.	Alleged victimization of an employee.	Employee reinstated.
<i>Alligator Creek.</i> Meat Works— Carpenters and Others.	25	..	29th Mar. to 30th Mar.	Dispute between two unions as to union certain men should join.	Compulsory conference under Industrial Arbitration Act.
<i>Bundamba.</i> Rhondda Colliery— Miners.	59	..	29th Mar.	Changes in conditions of cavel.	Pending at end of March, 1917.
S. Australia.					
<i>Port Pirie.</i> Zinc Distillation— Furnacemen.	*	*	20th Dec. 1916, to 7th Feb. 1917.	To enforce payment of increased rates of wage in lieu of a bonus offered by Company.	Resumed on old conditions with bonus system optional.
<i>Port Adelaide.</i> Sugar Refining— Storemen.	*	*	30th Dec., 1916, to 13th Jan. 1917.	Dispute <i>re</i> holidays.	Men reinstated.
<i>Port Pirie.</i> Coal Lumping— Lumpers.	85	..	5th Jan. to 8th Jan.	Claim for allowance for dusty coal.	Allowance paid.
<i>Port Augusta.</i> East-West Railway Engineers.	20	..	17th Jan.	Demarcation of work between engineers and boilermakers.	Work resumed pending decision of Chief Mechanical Engineer.
<i>Millbrook.</i> Water Conservation. Spallers and Labourers.	239	3	23rd Jan.	Labourers claimed payment as spallers at 10s. 6d. in lieu of 10s. per day.	Men to be paid 10s. 6d. when on spalling.
<i>Port Adelaide.</i> Wheat Stacking— Stackers.	90	30	13th Feb. to 16th Feb.	To enforce payment of 16s. in lieu of 14s. 8d. per day.	Demand conceded.
<i>Port Augusta.</i> East-West Railway Locomotive Mechanics.	40	..	27th Mar.	Refusal of labourers to perform work covered by an agreement with another Union.	Pending at end of March, 1917.

Particulars of Industrial Disputes recorded during the 1st Quarter, 1917—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	No. of Workpeople involved.		Dates of Commencement and Termination	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.			
W. Australia.					
<i>North Fremantle.</i> Ironworking— Riveters and Others.	*	*	20th Dec., 1916, to 11th Jan. 1917.	To enforce the payment of increased rates of wage.	Demand conceded.
<i>Fremantle.</i> S.S. "Zealandia." Waterside Workers.	70	56	4th Jan.	Objection to presence of foremen in the holds.	Foremen not to remain in holds, but to go down occasionally to exercise necessary supervision.
<i>Boulder.</i> Electric Light Station— Engine Drivers.	2	..	2nd Feb. to 20th Feb.	Practice of keeping boy on night shift discontinued.	Boy to be re-employed
<i>Fremantle.</i> Waterside Working Waterside Workers.	80	..	8th Feb.	Objection to employment of "speeders up."	"Speeders up" removed.
Waterside Workers.	100	..	19th Feb.	Do.	Do.
<i>Kalgoorlie.</i> East-West Railway Boilermakers.	7	6	24th Feb. to 7th Mar.	Boilermakers objected to blacksmiths and engineers using shearing and punching machines.	Blacksmiths to use machine on their work only.
<i>Bunbury.</i> Wheat Stacking— Stackers.	50	..	14th Mar. to 16th Mar.	To obtain gang of 5 instead of 4 men.	Gang to consist of 5 men after height of 25 feet reached.
<i>Perth.</i> Drain Repairing— Labourers.	11	2	27th Mar.	To enforce payment of an increased rate of wage.	Pending at end of March, 1917.
<i>Fremantle.</i> Slaughtering— Slaughtermen.	62	8	27th Mar. to 29th Mar.	Objection to employment of non-unionists.	Withdrawal of non-unionists.
Tasmania.					
<i>Hobart.</i> Coal Loading— Waterside Workers.	40	6	1st Jan. to 30th Jan.	Claim that all coal be handled on tonnage rates as per agreement.	Demand conceded.
Sawmilling— Mill Hands.	21	..	20th Jan. to 3rd Feb.	Alleged victimization of foreman.	Foreman reinstated.
<i>Oakwood.</i> Sawmilling— Mill Hands.	16	7	23rd Jan. to 5th Feb.	Objection to employment of non-unionists.	Men joined Union.

* See Labour Bulletin No. 16, p. 521.

SECTION VI.—CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGE.

1. **General.**—For the purposes of statistical investigations made by this Bureau in regard to changes in rates of wage, a change is defined as a specified variation in the fixed (hourly, daily or weekly) remuneration of employees in distinct occupations or callings in any industry.*

Each change recorded represents a variation in the rate of wage in a specific industry—irrespective of the number of separate occupations or callings affected thereby—which may have been brought about either voluntarily on the part of employers, by negotiations between representatives of employers and employees, industrial or voluntary agreements, or by award or determination of an industrial tribunal.

In Labour Reports Nos. 5, 6, and 7, information was given as to the sources of information and methods of collection and computation.

The particulars given herein respecting the number of persons affected and the amount of increase in the wages distribution refer respectively (a) to the number of persons ordinarily engaged in the specified occupations and (b) to the amount of increase (computed for hourly and daily paid rates of wage) for a full week's work. In the case of a change in the minimum rate of wage fixed under an award or determination of an industrial tribunal, it is ordinarily assumed (in the absence of any definite information to the contrary) that the whole of the employees in the particular occupation specified received at least the minimum rate of wage before and after the change.

It should be clearly understood that *the figures given in each of the following tables* shewing the amount of the increase per week relate to the *net increase in a week, i.e.,* after allowance has been made for those changes which resulted in a decrease. It is obvious that since unemployment and activity in all branches of industry may vary from year to year, and in many branches from season to season also, no accurate estimate of the actual effect of the changes in the total amount of wages received or paid *per annum* can be made until the determining factors have, at some later date, been investigated. These factors are (a) the amount of unemployment and (b) the period of employment in seasonal industries.

* It is obvious that under this definition certain classes of changes are excluded, such, for example, as (a) an increase in rate of pay for extra skill, progressive increment for increased length of service, or on promotion, and on the other hand, to (b) reduction in rate of pay or grade due to inefficiency or inexperience.

Changes in Rates of Wage.—Number and Effect of Changes in each State and Territory, 1913, 1914, 1915 and 1916.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	F.C.T.	C'wlth.
No. of Changes	1913 149 1914 185 1915 169 1916 377	81 69 87 168	41 50 60 134	26 18 31 98	20 42 25 42	12 19 24 37	.. .. 3 4	.. .. .. 4	329 384* 401† 870‡
No. of Persons Affected	1913 89,618 1914 56,469 1915 109,260 1916 242,564	49,254 29,876 39,087 119,878	16,645 20,198 22,864 72,079	4,574 5,624 10,206 40,925	3,036 8,399 2,661 5,848	3,005 4,262 3,147 7,232	.. .. 185 258	.. .. .. 157	166,132 125,218* 197,410† 492,487‡
Total Net Amount of Increase per week	1913 £21,789 1914 £13,558 1915 £29,525 1916 £56,835	£9,880 £6,688 £8,078 £30,566	£3,702 £5,128 £6,398 £40,451	£1,279 £1,941 £3,539 £9,930	£428 £2,423 £562 £1,440	£635 £804 £778 £1,980	.. .. £87 £88	.. .. .. £40	£37,713 £30,685* £51,905† £142,923‡
Average Increase per Head per week	1913 4s. 10d. 1914 4s. 10d. 1915 5s. 5d. 1916 4s. 8d.	4s. 0d. 4s. 6d. 4s. 2d. 5s. 1d.	4s. 5d. 5s. 1d. 5s. 7d. 11s. 3d.	5s. 7d. 6s. 11d. 6s. 11d. 4s. 10d.	2s. 10d. 5s. 9d. 4s. 3d. 4s. 11d.	4s. 3d. 3s. 9d. 4s. 11d. 5s. 6d.	.. .. 9s. 5d. 6s. 10d.	.. .. .. 5s. 1d.	4s. 6d. 4s. 11d.* 5s. 3d.† 5s. 10d.‡

* Including one change (common to all States) brought about by agreement made pursuant to Section 24 of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act. † Including two changes (common to all States), which resulted in an increase in wages of £2938 per week to 10,000 workpeople. ‡ Including six changes (common to all States), which resulted in an increase in wages of £1593 to 3546 workpeople. The particulars relating to the numbers of workpeople who were affected by these changes, and the net amount of increase per week in each State, were not ascertainable.

In point of number of changes in each State, New South Wales has been first, Victoria second, and Queensland third, in each of the years specified. Some little variation has occurred in the position of the remaining States. The relative position of the States in point of the numbers of workers affected in each year is, of course, largely due to the magnitude of the different industries and callings in which changes took place.

Included in the particulars contained in the foregoing table are those relating to five decreases during the year 1914, seven during the year 1915, and eight during the year 1916. The States in which these decreases were recorded were in 1914, New South Wales three, Victoria one, and Tasmania one, affecting 272 persons in all, and a decrease of £59 per week; in 1915 New South Wales two, Tasmania two, and in Victoria, South Australia, and Western Australia one each, affecting in all 494 workers to the extent of a decrease of £81 per week. Of the eight decreases recorded during 1916 in rates of wage, six affected workpeople in New South Wales, one in Victoria and one in Western Australia. The total number of persons affected was 1730, and the amount of decrease per week was £286.

Changes in Rates of Wage.—Number of Changes and Persons Affected, Aggregate Net Amount of Increase per Week, and Net Average Increase per Head per Week in each State and Territory, 1st Quarter, 1917.

PARTICULARS.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'd.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T. & F.C.T.	COMMONWEALTH.		
								1st Q'ter, 1917.	4th Q'ter, 1916.	1st Q'ter, 1916.
No. of Changes ..	54	24	22	23	8	6	..	*†138	*†251	188
No. of Persons Affected ..	33,947	24,941	8,413	4,922	1,509	1,006	..	85,738	110,907	142,588
Total Net Amount of Increase per week £	8,525	4,155	2,782	1,417	433	217	..	22,329	29,191	36,987
Net Average Increase per Head per week ..	5s. 0d.	3s. 4d.	6s. 7d.	5s. 9d.	5s. 9d.	4s. 4d.	..	5s. 3d.	5s. 3d.	5s. 2d.

* Including particulars of changes which involved a decrease in rates of wage.

† Including the effect of one or more changes brought about either by an award of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court, or by an industrial agreement made under the provisions of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, particulars of which in respect to the number of workpeople affected and the total net amount of increased weekly wages in each State are not ascertainable.

The number of changes in rates of wage recorded in the above table is 138, resulting in an aggregate net addition of £22,329 to the weekly wage distribution to 85,738 workpeople. These figures shew a reduction when compared with the previous quarter. It may be mentioned, however, that the effect of certain changes, which came into force during the first three months of the year, are not included in the above table, as complete particulars were not available. The effect of these changes will be included in the next issue of the Labour Bulletin. With one exception, all the changes recorded during the quarter under review were increases.

Changes in rates of wage which were effected without involving any cessation of work numbered 121, and 17 resulted from settlements reached in connection with industrial disputes which involved a stoppage of work. Of the latter, 8 were recorded for New South Wales, 4 for Queensland, 3 for South Australia, and 1 each for Victoria and Western Australia.

Changes in Rates of Wage.—Number of Persons Affected, Aggregate Net Amount of Increase per Week, and Net Average Increase per Head per Week in each State and for the Commonwealth, 1st Quarter, 1917.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T. & F.C.T.	C'wlth.
MALE OCCUPATIONS.								
No. of Persons Affected ..	23,040	16,714	7,913	3,847	1,509	674	..	69,697*
Total Net Amount of Increase per week .. £	7,341	2,995	2,668	1,215	433	155	..	19,607*
Net Average Increase per head per week ..	5s. 3d.	3s. 7d.	6s. 9d.	6s. 4d.	5s. 9d.	4s. 7d.	..	5s. 7d.
FEMALE OCCUPATIONS.								
No. of Persons Affected ..	5,907	8,227	500	1,075	..	332	..	16,041
Total Net Amount of Increase per week .. £	1,184	1,160	114	202	..	62	..	2,722
Net Average Increase per head per week ..	4s. 0d.	2s. 10d.	4s. 7d.	3s. 9d.	..	3s. 9d.	..	3s. 5d.

* Including effect of one change, particulars of which in respect to the number of workpeople affected and total net amount of increased weekly wages in each State are not ascertainable, which resulted in an estimated increase in wages of £4,800 per week to 11,000 workpeople.

Included in the 138 changes in rates of wage were 20, which wholly or partly applied to female occupations. Of this number, 5 changes affected female employees in New South Wales, 6 in Victoria, 4 in Queensland, 3 in South Australia, and 2 in Tasmania. The net average increase per head per week for females was 3s. 5d., and for males 5s. 7d.

Changes in Rates of Wage.—Number of Changes and Persons Affected, and Aggregate Net Amount of Increase per week, according to Industrial Groups, 1st Quarter, 1917.

Industrial Group.	No. of Changes.	No. of Persons Affected.	Net a'm't of Increase per week.	Industrial Group.	No. of Changes.	No. of Persons Affected.	Net a'm't of Increase per week.
I. Wood, Furniture, Timber, etc. . .	4	580	£ 161	IX. Rail and Tramway Services . .	14	3,805	£ 786
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. . .	16	7,003	1,476	X. Other Land Transport . .	3	28	8
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. . .	18	7,335	1,934	XI. Shipping, etc. . .	9	12,189	5,320
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. . .	5	6,857	1,475	XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc. . .	3	1,520	445
V. Books, Printing, etc. . .	5	1,969	609	XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc. . .	3	4,425	1,134
VI. Other Manufacturing . .	18	4,297	1,486	XIV. Miscellaneous . .	24	31,367	6,080
VII. Building . .	4	1,250	425				
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc.	9	3,113	990				
				TOTAL { 1st Quarter, 1917	† 135	85,738	22,329
				4th Quarter, 1916	* 219	110,907	29,191
				1st Quarter, 1916	188	142,588	36,987

* Including particulars of changes which involved a decrease in rates of wage.

† In this table a change brought about by an Award or Agreement under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, although operative in more than one State, is counted as one change only.

It may be observed from the above table that the number of changes in rates of wage was greatest in industries and occupations classified under Industrial Group XIV. (Miscellaneous), followed in the order named by Groups VI. (Other Manufacturing), III. (Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc.), II. (Engineering, Metal Working, etc.), IX. (Rail and Tramway Services), VIII. (Mining, Quarrying, etc.), XI. (Shipping, etc.), IV. (Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc.), V. (Books, Printing, etc.), I. (Wood, Furniture, etc.), VII. (Building), X. (Other Land Transport), XIII. (Domestic, Hotels, etc.), and XII. (Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.).

Changes in Rates of Wage.—Female Occupations.—Number of Changes and Persons Affected, and Aggregate Net Amount of Increase per week, according to Industrial Groups, 1st Quarter, 1917.

Particulars.	III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc.	IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc.	V. Books, Printing, etc.	VI. Other Manufacturing.	XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	XIV. Miscellaneous.	All Industrial Groups.
Number of changes	5	3	3	4	1	4	20
Number of persons affected	660	5,805	482	140	3,600	5,354	16,041
Total net amount of increase per week £	70	1,176	98	23	900	455	2,722

The principal occupations in which changes (in respect to the number of female workers affected) were recorded during the quarter under review, were biscuit factory employees, tailoresses and machinists employed in the order and ready-made tailoring trade, and bag and sack repairers in New South Wales; biscuit factory employees, Government Printing Office employees, bag makers, hotel and restaurant employees, and commercial clerks in Victoria; meat works employees, woollen mill employees, bookbinding and printing employees in Queensland; fruit preservers and shop assistants in South Australia, and leather workers and school teachers in Tasmania.

Particulars of Changes in Rates of Wage during the 1st Quarter, 1917.

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	Date from which Change took Effect.	Approximate No. of Workpeople Affected.		Method by which Change brought about	Particulars of Change.
		Males.	Females.		
N. S. Wales.					
Whole State. State Railways and Tramways— Electricians.	1st Jan.	473	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Average increase of 5s. 6d. per week.
Newcastle. Coke Making— Ovenmen and Others.	1st Jan.	33	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increases ranging from 5s. to 12s. 6d. per week.
Wallsend. Coke Making— Burners and Others.	1st Jan.	14	..	Direct negotiations after stoppage of work.	Increases ranging from 6s. to 22s. per week.
Lithgow. State Coal Mine— Surface Labourers.	1st Jan.	11	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increase of 5s. 6d. per per week.
Illawarra and Western District— Coke Making— Coke Workers.	1st Jan.	300	..	Do.	Increases ranging from 10s. to 12s. per week.*
Yerranderie & Cadia. Copper and Silver Mining— Miners and Others.	1st Jan.	132	..	Award of Common- wealth Arbitration Court.	Increases: Miners, 6s. 6d.; Others, 2s. 6d. to 6s. 6d. per week.
Whole State. State Railways— Clerical Staff.	9th Jan.	39	..	Voluntary action of the Commissioner for Railways.	Increase of 5s. per week.
County of Cumberland and Districts of New- castle and Maitland. Bookbinding— Binders, Rulers & Cutters.	12th Jan.	350	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase of 5s. per week.
Dapto. Railway Construction— Labourers.	15th Jan.	8	..	Direct negotiations after stoppage of work.	Increase of 3s. per week.
Whole State. Ironmoulding— Moulders.	15th Jan.	850	..	Do.	Increase of 6s. per week.
County of Cumberland. Water Supply and Sewerage— Various Occupations.	19th Jan.	2,100	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Average increase of 4s. per week.

Particulars of Changes in Rates of Wage recorded during the 1st Qtr, 1917.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	Date from which Change took Effect.	Approximate No. of Workpeople Affected.		Method by which Change brought about.	Particulars of Change
		Males.	Females.		
N. S. Wales—<i>cont.</i>					
<i>Otford Tunnel.</i> Railway Construction— Fettlers and Gangers.	24th Jan.	4	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increase of 3s. per week.
<i>Whole State.</i> State Tramways— Pitmen, Controller- men and Others.	25th Jan.	364	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increases ranging from 2s. to 6s. per week.
<i>County of Cumberland.</i> Carcase Butchering Pork Butchers.	25th Jan.	40	..	Do.	Increase to constant hands, 5s. per w'k ; to casual hands, 2s. 6d. per day.
<i>Airly.</i> Shale Mining— Miners and Others.	29th Jan.	20	..	Direct negotiations after stoppage of work.	Increases ranging from 12s. to 25s. per week.
<i>Lithgow.</i> Ironworking— Blast Furnacemen.	31st Jan.	110	..	Do.	Increases of 2s. 4d. and 2s. 8d. per w'k.
<i>County of Cumberland and Newcastle.</i> Shirtmaking— Cutters.	2nd Feb.	40	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase averaging about 7s. 6d. per week.
<i>County of Cumberland.</i> Retail Trade— Storemen and Packers.	2nd Feb.	350	12	Do.	Increase to males and females of 5s. and 3s. per week re- spectively.
<i>County of Cumberland and Newcastle.</i> Clothing— Cutters and Trimmers.	2nd Feb.	150	..	Do.	Increase of 7s. 6d. per week.
Order Tailoring— Tailors and Tailoresses.	2nd Feb.	750	2,250	Do.	Increases : Males, 5s.; females, 3s. and 5s. per week.
<i>Bulli and Woonona.</i> Brickmaking— Brickmakers.	2nd Feb.	60	..	Do.	Increase averaging 5s. 4d. per week.
<i>County of Cumberland.</i> Civil Ambulance and Transport Corps Bearers and Others.	5th Feb.	15	..	Do.	Increases ranging from 5s. to 15s. per week.
<i>Bellambi.</i> Coke Making— Coke Workers.	7th Feb.	106	..	Order of War Precautions Coal Board.	Average increase of about 18s. per week
<i>Whole State, excluding County of Yancowinna and certain specified areas.</i> Coachmaking(Rail)— Car and Waggon Builders & Others.	7th Feb.	100	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increases ranging from 6s. to 12s. per week.
<i>County of Cumberland.</i> Butter Making— Assistants and Others.	9th Feb.	140	..	Do.	Increases to adults ranging from 1s. 6d. to 10s. per week ; boys, 2s. 6d. per week.

Particulars of Changes in Rates of Wage during the 1st Quarter, 1917.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	Date from which Change took Effect	Approximate No. of Workpeople Affected.		Method by which Change brought about.	Particulars of Change.
		Males.	Females.		
N. S. Wales—<i>cont.</i>					
<i>Whole State, excluding County of Yancowinna</i> Surveying— Chainmen and Cooks.	9th Feb.	750	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increases : Chainmen 4s. 6d. and 5s. per week; Cooks, 9s. per week.
<i>Whole State.</i> Rock-chopping— Rock-choppers and Sewer Miners.	9th Feb.	600	..	Do.	Increases from 2s. 3d. to 2s. 6d., and from 1s. 10d. to 2s. per hour for sewer miners and rock- choppers respec- tively.
<i>County of Cumberland.</i> Bacon Curing— Various Occupations.	9th Feb.	135	..	Do.	Average increase of 7s. 1d. per week.
<i>Portland.</i> Cement Making— Cement Workers.	10th Feb.	22	..	Direct negotiations with assistance of official of State Industrial Depart- ment.	Increases ranging from 3s. 11d. to 4s. 10d. per week.
<i>Whole State, excluding County of Yancowinna.</i> Tailoring (Ready made)— Tailors and Others.	16th Feb.	100	3,500	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase of 7s. 6d. to adult males; 4s. 6d. and 5s. to fe- males; 2s. 6d. to apprentices and improvers.
<i>Newcastle.*</i> Gas Making— All Occupations.	16th Feb.	69	..	Do.	Increases ranging from 3d. to 20s. per week.
<i>Whole State.</i> State Railways and Tramways— Carpenters and Others.	16th Feb.	688	..	Do.	Increases ranging from 1s. to 14s. per week.
<i>Whole State.</i> Fire Brigade— Firemen.	20th Feb.	320	..	Award of Court of Industrial Arbitra- tion on appeal.	Increase of 3s. 6d. per week.
<i>Whole State, excluding County of Yancowinna.</i> Barbed Wire and Wire Nail Makers.	23rd Feb.	70	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase averaging about 6s. 3d. per week.
<i>Whole State.</i> Biscuit Baking— All Occupations.	2nd Mar.	120	85	Do.	Increases : Adult males, 2s. to 11s.; adult females, 1s. to 5s.; juveniles, 2s. and 2s. 6d. per w'k.
<i>Sydney.</i> Waterside Working Waterside Workers	5th Mar.	15	..	Direct negotiations after stoppage of work.	Increase from 1s. 9d. to 2s. per hour for handling kerosene.
<i>Whole State.</i> State Tramways (Permanent Way). Wages Staff.	9th Mar.	972	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increases ranging from 1s. 6d. to 4s. 6d. per week.

* By agreement, Award rates paid as from 11th July, 1916.

Particulars of Changes in Rates of Wage during the 1st Quarter, 1917.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	Date from which Change took Effect.	Approximate No. of Workpeople Affected.		Method by which Change brought about.	Particulars of Change.
		Males	Females.		
N. S. Wales—<i>cont.</i>					
<i>Whole State, excluding County of Yancowinna.</i> Milling Condiments, etc.— Millers and Others.	9th Mar.	20	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase of 6d. per week.
Bag and Sack Repairing— Repairers.	9th Mar.	35	60	Do.	Increases: males, 2s. 6d. to 5s. per week; females, 3s. to 7s; 6. per week.
<i>Whole State.</i> State Railways— Plumbers and Gasfitters.	16th Mar.	247	..	Award of the Court of Industrial Arbitra- tion.	Increases of 2s. and 3s. per week.
<i>County of Cumberland.</i> Building— Plumbers and Gasfitters.	16th Mar.	960	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase to adults of 8s. per week; ap- prentices, 2s. 6d. per week.
<i>Whole State, excluding County of Yancowinna.</i> Electroplating— Polishers and Others.	16th Mar.	110	..	Do.	Increases: adults 1s. 6d. and 3s. per week; apprentices, 2s. 6d. per week.
<i>Whole State.</i> State Railways and Tramways— Engineers.	16th Mar.	811	..	Do.	Increases ranging from 1s. to 8s. per week.
<i>Sydney.</i> Glass Bottle Manufacture— Sorters and Others.	16th Mar.	190	..	Award of Common- wealth Arbitra- tion Court.	Increases ranging from 9s. to 14s. per week.
<i>County of Cumberland, excluding Sydney</i> Retail Produce, Grain & Seed Stores. Storemen.	19th Mar.	350	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increases: Adults, 5s.; and youths, 1s. to 5s. per week.
<i>Sydney.</i> Wholesale Produce, Grain & Seed Stores. Storemen.	19th Mar.	400	..	Do.	Increases: Adults, 6s.; youths, 1s. to 5s. per week.
<i>Newcastle.</i> Transport— Motor Wagon Drivers.	20th Mar.	5	..	Industrial Agreement under State Act.	Increase averaging about 3s. 4d. per week.
<i>Whole State, excluding County of Yancowinna.</i> Confectionery— Packers and General Hands.	23rd Mar.	20	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increases: Packers, 6s.; general hands, 4s. per week.
<i>Whole State, excluding Port Jackson and New- castle.</i> Shipping— Masters and Engineers.	23rd Mar.	210	..	Do.	Increase of 7s. 6d. per week.
<i>Whole State.</i> State Railways— Motor Attendants.	28th Mar.	17	..	Award of Court of Industrial Arbitra- tion on appeal.	Decrease of 3s. per week.
<i>Whole State, excluding County of Yancowinna.</i> Organ Manufacture Builders & Others.	29th Mar.	50	..	Do.	Increases of 3s. and 8s. per week.

Particulars of Changes in Rates of Wage recorded during the 1st Qtr., 1917—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	Date from which Change took Effect.	Approximate No. of Workpeople Affected.		Method by which Change brought about.	Particulars of Change.
		Males.	Females.		
N. S. Wales.					
<i>Whole State, excluding County of Yancowinna and Sydney.</i> Local Authorities. Labourers and Others.	30th Mar.	14,000	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increases ranging from 2s. 6d. to 9s. per week.
<i>Newcastle.</i> Transport— Motor Wagon Drivers.	30th Mar.	15	..	Do.	Increase of 5s. per week.
<i>Port Jackson and Newcastle.</i> Shipping— Tug Boats Masters & Others.	31st Mar.	150	..	Do.	Increase of 10s. per week
Victoria.					
<i>Melbourne.</i> Government Printing Office— All Occupations.	1st Jan.	452	117	Voluntary action of of State Govt.	Increases ranging from 5s. to 12s. per week for males, and 2s. 6d. and 3s. per week for females.
<i>Wonthaggi.</i> Local Authority— Labourers and Others.	1st Jan.	10	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increase of 9s. per week.
<i>Metropolitan Area,* etc.</i> Nailmaking— Nailmakers.	1st Jan.	80	..	Determination of Wages Board.	Increase to adults, 6s. per week; ap- prentices and im- provers, 2s. to 5s. per week.
Perambulator Manufacture— Upholsterers.	1st Jan.	30	..	Do.	Increase of 2s. 6d. per week.
<i>Metropolitan Area,* etc., Borough of Castle- maine and Shire of Braybrook.</i> Engineering— All Occupations.	12th Jan.	3,300	..	Do.	Increase to adults, 4s. and 5s. per week; juveniles, 2s. and 2s. 6d. ; appren- tices and improvers 2s. to 3s. 6d. per week.
<i>Metropolitan Area,* etc., excluding Metro- politan District.</i> Printing— Printers, Book- binders & Others.	12th Jan.	75	..	Do.	Increases ranging from 2s. 6d. to 7s. per week.
<i>Metropolitan Area, etc.*</i> Brassworking— Brassworkers.	18th Jan.	440	..	Do.	Increase of 5s. per week.
Pastrycooking— Pastrycooks and Others.	20th Jan.	450	30	Do.	Increase to male adults, 4s. to 8s. per week; apprentices, 2s. 6d. per week; females, 1s. 6d. to 3s. per week.

* As defined in the Factories and Shops Acts, and including all cities and towns and the boroughs of Eaglehawk, Geelong West, Newtown and Chilwell and Sebastopol.

Particulars of Changes in Rates of Wage recorded during the 1st Qtr, 1917.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	Date from which Change took Effect.	Approximate No. of Workpeople Affected.		Method by which Change brought about.	Particulars of Change.
		Males.	Females.		
Victoria—<i>cont.</i>					
<i>Metropolitan Area, etc.*</i> Electrical Supply— Linesmen and Others.	22nd Jan.	180	..	Determination of Wages Board.	Increases per week; Adults, 1s. to 7s.; apprentices and im- provers, 1s. 6d. to 4s.; juveniles, 2s. 6d. and 5s.
<i>Whole State, excluding Metropolitan Area, etc.*</i> Fuel and Fodder— Cutters & Loaders.	1st Feb.	250	..	Do.	Average increase of 7s. 6d. per week.
<i>Melbourne.</i> Transport— Railway Shunters.	1st Feb.	8	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increase of 7s. per week.
Harbour Trust— Various Occupations.	5th Feb.	389	..	Voluntary action of Commissioners.	Increases ranging from 1s. to 5s. 9d. per week.
<i>Wonthaggi.</i> Grocery— Shop Assistants.	24th Feb.	20	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees	Increases from 5s. to 10s. per week.
<i>Metropolitan Area, etc.*</i> Furniture— Salesmen and Others	1st Mar.	300	..	Determination of Wages Board.	Increases per week ranging from 1s. to 7s. 6d.
Biscuit Baking— Bakers and Others.	2nd Mar.	360	420	Do.	Increases per week: Adults, males, 2s. to 6s.; females, 2s. 6d.; juveniles, male, 2s. to 5s.; female, 2s. to 3s. 6d.; ap- prentices, male, 2s. to 5s.; female, 1s. to 2s. 6d.
<i>Whole State.</i> Carriage Building. All Occupations.	10th Mar.	2,000	..	Do.	Increases to adults ranging from 3s. to 9s. per week; juveniles, 2s. 6d. per week.
<i>Metropolitan Area, etc.*</i> Hotelkeeping, etc.— All Occupations.	10th Mar.	700	3,600	Do.	Increases: males, 4s. to 9s. per week; females, 2s. to 6s. 6d. per week.
Bagmaking— Machinists and Others.	12th Mar.	30	60	Do.	Increases: males, 2s. to 6s.; females, 3s. to 6s. 3d. per week.
Clerical— Clerks.	12th Mar.	6,000	4,000	Determination of the Court of Industrial Appeals.	increase to males and females of 2s. and 1s. per week re- spectively.
<i>Melbourne.</i> Glass Bottle Manufacture— Sorters and Others.	16th Mar.	175	..	Award of Common- wealth Arbitration Court.	Increases ranging from 4s. to 14s. per week.

* As defined in the Factories and Shops Acts, and including all cities and towns and the boroughs of Eaglehawk, Geelong West, Newtown and Chilwell and Sebastopol.

Particulars of Changes in Rates of Wage recorded during the 1st Qtr., 1917—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	Date from which Change took Effect.	Approximate No. of Workpeople Affected.		Method by which Change brought about.	Particulars of Change.
		Males.	Females.		
Victoria—cont.					
<i>Metropolitan Area, etc.*</i>					
Electroplating— Platers and Others.	19th Mar.	90	..	Determination of Wages Board.	Increases of 2s. and 3s. per week.
Gas Meter Making and Repairing— Repairers and Others.	29th Mar.	95	..	Do.	Increases ranging from 2s. to 10s. per week.
<i>Whole State.</i> Iron Moulding— Moulders.	30th Mar.	1,050	..	Direct negotiations after stoppage of work.	Increase of 5s. per week to adults, and proportionate in- creases to appren- tices and improvers
<i>Metropolitan Distric and all Cities.</i> Gardening— Gardeners an Nurserymen.	31st Mar.	230	..	Determination of Wages Board.	Increases ranging from 3s. to 6s. per week.
Queensland.					
<i>Brisbane.†</i> Bacon Curing— All Occupations.	1st July, 1916.	260	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increase of 10% on award rates.
<i>Whole State.</i> Meat Industry— Various Occupations, in- cluding Engineers, and Engine Drivers	1st Jan.	4,450	80	Do.	Increases ranging from 6s. to 15s. 6d. per week for males; females, 4s. 6d. per week.
<i>Mackay.</i> Metal Working— Engineers and Others.	1st Jan.	120	..	Award of the Court of Industrial Arbi- tration.	Increases ranging from 2s. 8d. to 10s. 8d. per week.
<i>Brisbane.</i> Bacon Curing— All Occupations.	1st Jan.	260	..	Do.	Increases ranging from 2s. to 4s. per week.
<i>Whole State.</i> Flour Milling— Labourers and Others.	2nd Jan.	120	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase of 1s. per week.
<i>Sth. Eastern Division.</i> Coachbuilding— Labourers and Others.	2nd Jan.	550	..	Do.	Increases : adult males, 4s. 7d. to 11s. 11d.; apprentices, 2s. 6d. to 10s. per week.
<i>Dajarra.</i> Railway Construction— Labourers.	22nd Jan	100	..	Direct negotiations after stoppage of work.	Increase from 12s. 3d. to 14s. per day.
<i>Brisbane.</i> Printing, &c.— Printers, Book- binders and Others.	29th Jan.	530	350	Award of Industrial Board.	Increases : Adult males, 8s. and 14s.; adult females, 5s.; apprentices, 1s. 6d. to 5s. per week.

* As defined in the Factories and Shops Acts, and including all cities and towns and the boroughs of Eaglehawk, Geelong West, Newtown and Chilwell and Sebastopol.

† Particulars not available for inclusion in previous Bulletins.

Particulars of Changes in Rates of Wage recorded during the 1st Qtr., 1917.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	Date from which Change took Effect.	Approximate No. of Workpeople Affected.		Method by which Change brought about.	Particulars of Change.
		Males.	Females.		
Queensland—<i>cont.</i>					
<i>Northern Division.</i> Engine Driving— All Occupations.	5th Feb.	100	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increases ranging from 6s. to 17s. per week.
<i>Townsville.</i> Building— Carpenters and Joiners.	7th Feb.	150	..	Do.	Increases: Adults, 9s. to 10s. 10d. per week; apprentices, 2s. 6d. to 10s. per week.
<i>Ipswich.</i> Woollen Mills— Weavers and Others.	9th Feb.	12	55	Voluntary action of employer.	Increases to males, 3s. to 6s. per week; females, 2s. 6d. to 7s. 6d. per week.
<i>Townsville.</i> Waterside Working Waterside Workers	12th Feb.	180	..	Direct negotiations after stoppage of work.	Increase from 2s. 1d. to 2s. 5d. per hour.
<i>Sth. East Coast.</i> Ship Building and Repairing. Shipwrights.	12th Feb.	60	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase of 9s. 2d. per week.
<i>Townsville.</i> Railway Workshops. Boilermakers.	19th Feb.	20	..	Direct negotiations after stoppage of work.	Increases of 14s. and 14s. 3d. per week.
<i>Central Division.</i> Engine Driving— All Occupations.	19th Feb.	300	..	Award of Court of Industrial Arbitra- tion on appeal.	Increase of 4s. per week.
Printing, &c.— Printers, Book- binders and Others.	19th Feb.	80	15	Award of Industrial Board.	Increases averaging 10s. and 2s. 6d. per week for males and females respective- ly.
<i>Roma.</i> State Railways— Coalmen.	20th Feb.	5	..	Direct negotiations after stoppage of work.	Increase from 8s. 9d. to 9s. 6d. per day, plus district allow- ance.
<i>Sth. Eastern Division.</i> Ironworking— Ironworkers' Assistants.	23rd Feb.	190	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increases ranging from 1s. to 9s. per week.
<i>Brisbane.</i> Gasmaking— All Occupations.	1st Mar.	163	..	Industrial Agree- ment under State Act.	Increases up to 5s. per week.
Coal Working— Lumpers and Lightermen.	12th Mar.	100	..	Award of Court of Industrial Arbitra- tion.	Increase to lumpers averaging about 5s. per week; lighter- men, 1s. per week.
<i>Sth. Eastern Division.</i> Furniture Making— All Occupations.	13th Mar.	100	..	Industrial Agree- ment under State Act.	Increases: Adult males, 6s. 5d. to 12s. 10d. per week; juveniles, 2s.; and apprentices 1s. 6d. to 4s. 6d. per week.
<i>Brisbane.</i> Tramways— Construction and Maintenance Men.	22nd Mar.	63	..	Do.	Increases ranging from 4s. to 8s. per week.

Particulars of Changes in Rates of Wage recorded during the 1st Qtr., 1917—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	Date from which Change took Effect.	Approximate No. of Workpeople Affected.		Method by which Change brought about.	Particulars of Change.
		Males.	Females.		
S. Australia.					
<i>Whole State.*</i> Supply and Tender Board— Storemen, Packers and Others.	1st July, 1916	50	..	Voluntary action of State Government	Average increase of 13s. 10d. per week.
Public Works* Department.— Sewer Labourers.	1st July, 1916.	20	..	Do.	Increase of 6s. per week.
<i>Walleroo.</i> Local Authority— Labourers and Others.	1st Jan.	6	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increases of 6s. and 7s. per week.
Copper Mining— and Smelting— All Occupations.	1st Jan.	1,833	..	Voluntary action of employer.	Increases ranging from 2s. 6d. to 9s. per week.
<i>Port Pirie.</i> Coal Lumping— Lumpers.	8th Jan.	85	..	Direct negotiations after stoppage of work.	Increase from 14s. to 21s. per day for alleged dusty coal.
<i>Port Augusta.</i> East-West Railway Cooks and Offsiders	8th Jan.	14	..	Voluntary action of Minister for Works and Railways.	Increases : Cooks, £1; Offsiders, 15s. per week.
<i>Port Pirie.</i> House Painting— Painters.	9th Jan.	20	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increase from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d. per hour.
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Timber Trade— Drivers and Others.	18th Jan.	130	..	Determination of Wages Board.	Increases ranging from 1s. to 4s. per week.
<i>Millbrook Reservoir.</i> Water Conservation. Labourers.	23rd Jan.	8	..	Direct negotiations after stoppage of work.	Increase of 6d. per day.
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Iron and Steel Moulding— Moulders and Others.	25th Jan.	120	..	Determination of Wages Board.	Increases to adults ranging from 5s. to 12s.; juveniles, 2s. and 2s. 6d. per week.
Laundrying— Horse Drivers and Others.	1st Feb.	25	..	Do.	Increases ranging from 3s. to 6s. per week.
Wholesale Grocery— Porters and Drivers.	1st Feb.	50	..	Do.	Increases to drivers, 3s. and 4s.; port- ers, 3s. per week.
Building— Plasterers.	1st Feb.	120	..	Do.	Increase to adults from 1s. 6d. to 1s. 8d. per hour; ap- prentices 2s. 6d. per week.
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Milk Vending— Drivers and Stablemen.	5th Feb.	90	..	Award of Industrial Court.	Increase of 7s. per week.

* Particulars not available for inclusion in previous Bulletins.

Particulars of Changes in Rates of Wage recorded during the 1st Qtr., 1917—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	Date from which Change took Effect.	Approximate No. of Workpeople Affected.		Method by which Change brought about.	Particulars of Change.
		Males.	Females.		
S. Australia—cont.					
<i>Gepps Cross.</i> Metropolitan Abattoirs Board— Slaughtermen and Others.	14th Feb.	40	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increases of 2s. 6d. and 5s. per week.
Port Adelaide Wheat Stacking— Stackers.	27th Feb.	90	..	Industrial Agree- ment under State Act.	Increase averaging about 8s. per week.
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Fruit Preserving— Soldiers and Others.	1st Mar.	50	45	Determination of Wages Board.	Increase of 6s. and 4s. to males and fe- males respectively.
Hairdressing— Hairdressers.	1st Mar.	100	..	Do.	Increase of 7s. 6d. per week to adult males
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Boilermaking— Boilermakers.	8th Mar.	260	..	Do.	Increase of 3s. per week.
<i>Prospect.</i> Local Authority— Labourers.	12th Mar.	11	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increase of 3s. per week.
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Wickerworking— Wickerworkers.	14th Mar.	60	10	Determination of Wages Board.	Increases per week : Males, 5s. ; females 2s. 6d. and 10s. ; apprentices, 3s. 6d. to 6s. 6d.
<i>Adelaide.</i> Glass Bottle Manufacture— Sorters & Others.	16th Mar.	65	..	Award of Common- wealth Arbitra- tion Court.	Increase ranging from 2s. to 14s. per week.
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Drapery, Stationery, and Fancy Goods— Shop Assistants.	28th Mar.	600	1,020	Determination of Wages Board.	Increases : Adult males, 6s. to 11s. 6d per week ; juniors, 1s. 6d. ; adult fe- males, 2s. 6d. to 11s. 6d. per week.
W. Australia.					
<i>Ravensthorpe.</i> Smelting— All Occupations.	1st Jan.	70	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increase of 6s. per week.
<i>Collie.</i> Coal Mining— Engine Drivers and Firemen.	3rd Jan.	25	..	Do.	Increases to engine drivers, 2s. 6d. and 5s. 6d. per week ; firemen, 2s. 6d. per week.
<i>Nth. Fremantle.</i> Ironworking— Riveters.	11th Jan.	13	..	Direct negotiations after stoppage of work.	Increase of 3s. per week.
<i>North West and Murchison District.</i> Pastoral— Shearers & Others.	1st Feb.	1,200	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increases : Shearers from 25s. to 27s. 6d. per 100 ; pressers, 60s. to 65s. per week ; shed hands, 50s. to 52s. 6d. per week.

Particulars of Changes in Rates of Wage recorded during the 1st Qtr., 1917—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	Date from which Change took Effect.	Approximate No. of Workpeople Affected.		Method by which Change brought about.	Particulars of Change.
		Males.	Females.		
W. Australia—cont.					
<i>Youanmi.</i> Gold Mining— Miners and Others.	1st Feb.	60	..	Industrial Agree- ment under State Act.	Increases ranging from 2s. to 6s. per week.
<i>Perth and Fremantle.</i> Wine and Spirit— Cellar Hands.	5th Feb.	20	..	Do.	Increase of 3s. 6d. per week.
<i>Greenbushes.</i> Tin Mining— Engine Drivers and Firemen.	19th Mar.	36	..	Do.	Increases to engine drivers, 6s. and 8s. per week; firemen, 6s. per week.
<i>Whole State.</i> Fire Brigades Board Firemen.	23rd Mar.	85	..	Do.	Increases ranging from 2s. to 8s. per week.
Tasmania.					
<i>Hobart and Launceston</i> Brewing— All Occupations.	1st Jan.	80	..	Industrial Agree- ment under Com- monwealth Act.	Progressive increase of 1s. per week.
<i>Whole State.</i> Education Department— Teachers.	1st Jan.	44	322	Voluntary action of the State Govern- ment.	Increase of £10 per annum.
Police Department. Sergeants, Detectives and Constables.	1st Jan.	158	..	Do.	Increases ranging from 3s. 6d. to 11s. 5d. per week.
<i>Arcoa.</i> Tin Mining— Miners and Others.	1st Jan.	112	..	Award of Common- wealth Arbitration Court.	Increases ranging from 3s. to 10s. 6d per week.
<i>Mt. Lyell and Mt. Magnet.</i> Mining— Miners and Others.	1st Mar.	250	..	Do.	Increases ranging from 1s. 6d. to 7s. 3d. per week.
<i>Whole State.</i> Leather Working— Apprentices and Improvers.	24th Mar.	30	10	Determination of Wages Board.	Average increase about 2s. per week.
All States.					
Inter-State Trading, Shipping— Seamen.	1st Feb.	11,000	..	Industrial Agree- ment after com- pulsory conference under Common- wealth Act.	Increase of 35s. per month all round, except ordinary seamen (under 18 years), 5s. per month.

SECTION VII.—CURRENT RATES OF WAGE AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

1. **General.**—The particulars given herein relate to rates of wage and hours of labour in industrial occupations and callings in the metropolitan area—with the exception of those coming within the Industrial Classification Groups VIII. (Mining, etc.), XI. (Shipping and Waterside Working), and XII. (Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.), which obviously relate principally to industries, trades, and occupations carried on mainly outside that area—in each of the six States comprising the Commonwealth of Australia.

The rates of wage and the hours of labour referred to are those ruling in 146 specific industries,* and comprise information respecting 930 separate callings in adult male occupations, and 92 in adult female occupations, and are with comparatively few exceptions the minimum rates of wage prescribed by awards or determinations made by industrial tribunals, in pursuance of the Arbitration Court and/or Wages Boards Act in force in each of the several States, for a maximum number of hours of labour constituting a full week's work.† Where, however, a minimum rate of wage has not been so prescribed for a specified occupation, the ruling trade union or predominant rate of wage being paid to workers for a full week's work in that occupation, has been taken. This course has been followed in order that comparisons of the industrial conditions in the specified industrial occupations may be made as between State and State, and further to render any results obtained therefrom fairly comprehensive and representative of the principal industries carried on in each State. Any comparisons, however, with respect to the massed average weekly rate of wage in each State, must be subject to the qualification, that the results set out herein, do not include particulars relating to *all* the industries carried on in each State; but may be taken to indicate with a considerable degree of precision the relative industrial conditions at each of the dates specified, and more particularly to the movement in rates of wage and hours of labour between those dates.

The rates of wage and hours of labour respectively so obtained have been grouped, according as the respective occupation or calling comes within the industrial classification adopted by this Bureau,‡ and an arithmetic average thereof computed in each instance for the particular industrial group. For the purpose of ascertaining a massed average rate of wage for each and all of the six areas included and for each and all industrial groups, a system of weighting the average obtained for each industrial group in each State has been adopted. The weights or

* Details of the rates of wage and the number of hours constituting a full week's work for each occupation, and for each State, were published as Appendixes to the following publications:—To 30th September, 1914 (Labour Report No. 5); to 30th September, 1915 (Labour Bulletin No. 11); to 31st December, 1915 (Labour Report No. 6); and to 31st December, 1916 (Labour Report No. 7).

† In some instances where wages are earned on a daily or hourly scale only, and where a definite number of working hours are fixed or recognised as constituting a full week's work (*e.g.*, the building trades), the corresponding weekly rates are computed, in order that the rates may generally be on a comparative basis.

‡ See page 334, Labour Report No. 7.

multiples used correspond in power to the magnitude or importance of each industrial group according to the number of workers engaged therein.† The weighted average results so ascertained at the end of each quarter of the year are published periodically, and comprise for each industrial group and State (a) the relative nominal weekly rates of wage and wage index-numbers, and (b) the relative hours of labour and hourly rates of wage, together with particulars shewing the movement in the weighted average nominal weekly and hourly rates of wage respectively in each State.

2. Weekly Rates of Wage and Wage Index-Numbers in Classified Industries and States, 31st March, 1917.—The particulars given in the Appendixes, referred to in the footnote to page 65, upon being revised to the 31st March, 1917, furnish the necessary data for the computation of relative rates of wage in different classified industrial groups and States to that date.

(i.) *Weighted Average Nominal Rate of Wage Payable to Adult Male Workers in each State, 31st March, 1917.*—These results are based on the rates of wage in a large number of important industries, and serve to indicate with a considerable degree of precision the relative conditions in the several States. For the purposes of comparison as between States it should, however, be observed that the lists of occupations to which the rates of wage refer are not by any means uniform, neither do they necessarily include all the more important industries carried on in each State, and any conclusions drawn from such comparisons must be subject to these qualifications. Taking the weighted average rate of wage for the six States as base (= 1000), index-numbers for each State are also shewn.

† Particulars as to the methods adopted for ascertaining the weighted average wage for each State or Industrial class were published in Labour Report No. 2, pp. 23-4. The following are the weights used in the computation of the average wage for male and female occupations respectively :—

Wage Index-Numbers for Male Occupations. Weights used for each Industrial Group.

Particulars.	I.	II.	III.	IV.	V.	VI.	VII.	VIII.	IX.	X.	XI.	XII.	XIII.	XIV.
N.S.W. ..	136	228	199	84	65	162	252	343	187	74	137	704	134	902
Victoria ..	118	195	160	95	58	141	190	157	136	54	65	455	95	734
Queensland ..	67	62	108	23	20	34	70	133	73	22	45	352	45	302
S. Australia ..	24	71	45	16	13	40	68	29	48	17	44	182	24	223
W. Australia ..	65	36	32	7	8	16	32	142	40	9	32	118	31	158
Tasmania ..	25	14	17	6	5	7	20	49	10	6	12	104	10	80
C'wealth ..	435	606	561	231	169	400	632	853	494	182	335	1,915	339	2,399

Wage Index-Numbers for Female Occupations. Weights used for each Industrial Group.

Particulars.	III. Food, Drink, etc.	IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.	I. II. V. VI. Other Manufactures.	XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	XIV. Miscellaneous Shop Assistants, Clerks, etc.
New South Wales ..	23	228	44	104	124
Victoria ..	28	320	57	80	111
Queensland ..	5	80	8	47	40
South Australia ..	3	56	7	22	32
Western Australia ..	1	29	..	29	..
Tasmania ..	1	18	2	8	..
Commonwealth ..	61	731	118	290	307

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rate of Wage payable to Adult Male Workers for a Full Week's Work, and Wage Index-Numbers in each State and Commonwealth, 31st March, 1917.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'with.
Number of Occupations included ..	874	909	627	567	489	482	3,948
Weighted Average Weekly Rate of Wage	s. d. 62 7	s. d. 60 0	s. d. 61 2	s. d. 59 8	s. d. 65 5	s. d. 57 6	s. d. 61 5*
Index-Numbers	1,019	977	996	971	1,064	936	1,000*

* Weighted average.

The results shew that the weighted average nominal rate of wage was highest in Western Australia, followed in the order named by New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria, South Australia, and Tasmania.

(ii.) *Weighted Average Nominal Rate of Wage Payable to Adult Male Workers in each Industrial Group, 31st March, 1917.*—In computing the index-number for each industrial group, the weighted average rate of wage for all groups is taken as base (= 1000).

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rate of Wage payable to Adult Male Workers for a full Week's Work, and Wage Index-Numbers in each Industrial Group, 31st March, 1917.

Industrial Groups.	No. of Rates Included.	Weighted Aver. Weekly Rate of Wage (for Full Week's Work).	Index-Numbers
		s. d.	
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	270	63 11	1,040
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	636	62 10	1,022
III. Food, Drink, etc. ..	576	62 1	1,011
IV. Clothing, Boots, etc. ..	124	57 1	929
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	205	68 9	1,118
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	875	62 2	1,012
VII. Building	190	70 3	1,143
VIII. Mining	161	76 8	1,247
IX. Rail & Tram Services, etc.	224	63 7	1,035
X. Other Land Transport ..	70	58 1	945
XI. Shipping, etc.	198	61 0†	933
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.	72	55 4§	900
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	114	52 2‡	848
XIV. Miscellaneous	233	58 8	955
All Groups	3,948	61 5	1,000*

* Weighted average. † Including the value of victualling and accommodation (estimated at 45s. per month) where supplied. § Including the value of Board and Lodging where supplied as follows:—In the agricultural industry 14s. per week in Victoria and 15s. in the remaining States; in the pastoral industry, 19s. in New South Wales, 22s. in Queensland, 15s. in West Australia and 17s. in Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania. ‡ Including the value of Board and Lodging where supplied as follows:—In Sydney 15s. and 18s., according to the rates of wage, in Melbourne 14s., in Perth 22s., and in Brisbane, Adelaide, and Hobart 15s.

It may be observed from the previous table that the highest weighted average wage was that paid in Group VIII. (Mining), 76s. 8d., per week, about 25 per cent. above the weighted average for all groups, and the lowest in Group XIII. (Hotels, etc.), 52s. 2d. per week, about 15 per cent. below the weighted average for all groups.

(iii.) *Weighted Average Nominal Rate of Wage Payable to Adult Female Workers in each State, 31st March, 1917.*—Taking the weighted average rate of wage for the whole Commonwealth as base (= 1000), index-numbers for each State are shewn. The figures given in this table are subject to the qualifications, regarding want of uniformity in the data for the several States, stated in paragraph (i.).

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rate of Wage payable to Adult Female Workers for a Full Week's Work, and Wage Index-Numbers in each State and Commonwealth, 31st March, 1917.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
Number of Occupations included	85	87	37	47	24	28	308
Weighted Average Weekly Rate of Wage	s. d. 29 1	s. d. 28 10	s. d. 27 5	s. d. 25 9	s. d. 38 10	s. d. 28 4	s. d. 28 11*
Index-Numbers	1,008	998	949	891	1,345	980	1,000*

* Weighted average.

It will be seen that the weighted average nominal rate of wage for adult female workers was highest in Western Australia, followed in the order named by New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, Queensland, and South Australia.

(iv.) *Weighted Average Nominal Rate of Wage Payable to Adult Female Workers in Industrial Groups, 31st March, 1917.*—Index-numbers based on the weighted average for all groups as base (= 1000) are also given:—

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rate of Wage payable to Adult Female Workers for a Full Week's Work, and Wage Index-Numbers in Industrial Groups, 31st March, 1917.

Industrial Groups.	No. of Rates Included.	Weighted Aver. Weekly Rate of Wage (for Full Week's Work).	Index-Numbers.
		s. d.	
III. Food, Drink, etc... ..	35	25 6	882
IV. Clothing, Boots, etc. ..	114	27 4	946
I., II., V., VI. All Other Manufacturing Combined	84	29 8	1,026
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	57	31 8*	1,096
XIV. Shop Assistants, Clerks, etc	18	30 4	1,051
All Groups	308	28 11	1,000†

* Including the value of Board and Lodging (estimated at 15s. per week for Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide, and Hobart, and at 14s. and 22s. per week for Melbourne and Perth respectively), where supplied, in order that the rate of wage may be comparable with those in other industries.

† Weighted average.

The results set out in the immediately preceding table shew that omitting Group XIII. (Domestic, Hotels, etc.), the highest weighted average wage was that paid in Group XIV. (Shop Assistants, Clerks, etc.), 30s. 4d., or about 5 per cent. higher than the average wage for all groups. This is followed in the order named by Groups I., II., V., and VI. (All Other Manufacturing Combined), 29s. 8d., Group IV. (Clothing, Boots, etc.), 27s. 4d., and Group III. (Food, Drink, etc.), 25s. 6d., being respectively 2.6 per cent. above, and 5.4 and 11.8 per cent. below the weighted average wage for all groups.

3. Hours of Labour and Hourly Rates of Wage, 31st March, 1917.—The rates of wage referred to in the preceding paragraphs of this Section relate to the minimum rates payable for a full week's work. It should be observed, however, that the number of hours which constitute a full week's work differs in many instances, not only as between various trades and occupations in each State, but also as between the same trades and occupations in the several States. In order to secure what may be for some purposes a more adequate standard of comparison, the results given in the preceding paragraphs are herein reduced to a common basis, viz., the rate of wage per hour, classified according to industrial groups in each State and all States.

(i.) *Males*.—The table on page 70 shews (a) the average weekly wage, (b) the average number of working hours per week for a full week's work, and (c) the average hourly wage for adult male workers in each State and industrial group except Groups XI. (Shipping, etc.), and XII. (Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.). Owing to the fact that many of the occupations included in these two groups are of a casual or seasonal nature, and that the hours of labour are not generally regulated either by awards or determinations of industrial tribunals or otherwise, the necessary particulars for the computation of average working time and hourly rates of wage are not available.

The general effect of reducing the weighted average rates of wage to a common basis (*i.e.*, per hour) is to eliminate on comparison any apparent difference between the several States which may be due to unequal working time. On page 67 index-numbers are given showing the relative average *weekly* rate of wage for each State; the corresponding index-numbers for the *hourly* rate, taking the average for the whole Commonwealth as base (= 1000) are as follows:—New South Wales, 1015; Victoria, 969; Queensland 992; South Australia, 969; Western Australia, 1076; and Tasmania, 908.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly and Hourly Rates of Wage, Payable to Adult Male Workers, and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st March, 1917.*

Industrial Groups.	Particulars.†	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Average for Six Capital Towns.
I. Wood, Furniture etc.	Weekly Wage	65/2	61/9	66/4	61/8	66/3	56/2	63/11
	Working Hours	48.02	48.07	46.24	47.90	48.00	48.00	47.75
	Hourly Wage	1/4½	1/3½	1/5¼	1/3½	1/4½	1/2	1/4
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	Weekly Wage	64/5	62/5	61/6	58/1	67/3	61/5	62/10
	Working Hours	48.00	48.00	45.65	48.00	47.95	48.00	47.76
	Hourly Wage	1/4	1/3½	1/4¼	1/2½	1/4¾	1/3½	1/3¾
III. Food, Drink, etc.	Weekly Wage	63/10	61/-	62/2	61/10	61/-	54/6	62/1
	Working Hours	48.57	48.73	49.32	48.49	49.59	49.39	48.84
	Hourly Wage	1/3¾	1/3	1/3	1/3¼	1/2¾	1/1¼	1/3¼
IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.	Weekly Wage	61/6	54/11	52/8	52/-	63/9	52/6	57/1
	Working Hours	47.79	48.00	48.00	48.00	48.00	48.00	47.92
	Hourly Wage	1/3½	1/1¾	1/1¼	1/1	1/4	1/1	1/2½
V. Books, Printing, etc.	Weekly Wage	69/4	69/10	67/7	65/-	68/6	63/-	68/9
	Working Hours	46.73.	45.93	45.30	47.56	45.77	46.35	46.29
	Hourly Wage	1/5¾	1/6¼	1/6	1/4¼	1/6	1/4¼	1/5¾
VI. Other Manufacturing	Weekly Wage	63/9	61/1	59/4	61/6	64/4	59/5	62/2
	Working Hours	47.98	48.16	47.43	48.30	48.10	48.23	48.04
	Hourly Wage	1/4	1/3¼	1/3	1/3¼	1/4	1/2¾	1/3½
VII. Building	Weekly Wage	72/9	69/1	70/2	66/3	69/5	65/1	70/3
	Working Hours	47.28	44.41	44.00	46.07	47.90	46.67	45.94
	Hourly Wage	1/6½	1/6¾	1/7	1/5½	1/5½	1/4¾	1/6¼
VIII. Mining‡	Weekly Wage	75/-	73/1	80/5	90/9	81/10	65/7	76/8
	Working Hours	45.58	44.92	45.80	45.77	47.50	47.31	45.92
	Hourly Wage	1/7¾	1/7½	1/9	1/11¾	1/8¾	1/4¾	1/8
IX. Rail & Tram Services	Weekly Wage	65/8	61/7	63/11	62/9	63/1	56/2	63/7
	Working Hours	48.50	48.15	48.79	48.50	48.46	49.80	48.47
	Hourly Wage	1/4	1/3¼	1/3¾	1/3½	1/3½	1/1½	1/3¾
X. Other Land Transport	Weekly Wage	59/4	57/-	59/-	55/2	62/9	50/4	58/1
	Working Hours	54.89	52.78	52.67	49.45	48.00	53.00	53.09
	Hourly Wage	1/1	1/1	1/1½	1/1½	1/3¾	-11/11	1/1
XI. Shipping, etc. ..	Weekly Wage	60/1	63/5	58/4	64/10	57/8	64/-	61/-
	Working Hours	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Hourly Wage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural etc.	Weekly Wage¶	55/10	53/-	57/4	53/11	56/3	56/2	55/4
	Working Hours	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Hourly Wage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	Weekly Wage§	53/3	51/3	47/8	51/-	60/1	43/6	52/2
	Working Hours	57.43	57.05	59.25	54.70	55.53	58.00	57.22
	Hourly Wage	-11¼	-10¼	-9½	-11¼	1/1	-9/9	-11
XIV. Miscellaneous ..	Weekly Wage	60/1	58/6	55/11	57/9	60/-	54/2	58/8
	Working Hours	48.61	48.63	49.13	48.03	46.98	48.39	48.51
	Hourly Wage	1/2	1/2½	1/1¼	1/2½	1/3¼	1/1½	1/2½
All Groups	Weekly Wage	62/7	60/-	61/2	59/8	65/5	57/6	61/5
	Working Hours	64/6	61/5	62/9	61/-	67/8	57/9	63/1
	Hourly Wage	48.51	48.22	48.25	48.08	48.09	48.55	48.32
All Groups excepting XI. and XII	Weekly Wage	62/7	60/-	61/2	59/8	65/5	57/6	61/5
	Working Hours	64/6	61/5	62/9	61/-	67/8	57/9	63/1
	Hourly Wage	1/4	1/3¼	1/3½	1/3¼	1/5	1/2¼	1/3¾

* Hourly rates have been published as follows:—To 30th April, 1914 (Labour Report No. 5, pp. 49-50); to 31st March, 1915 (Labour Bulletin No. 9, pp. 72-3); to 30th June, 1915 (Labour Bulletin, No. 10, pp. 175-6); to 30th September, 1915 (Labour Bulletin No. 11, pp. 264-5); to 31st December, 1915 (Labour Bulletin, No. 12, pp. 413-4); to 31st March, 1916 (Labour Bulletin No. 13, pp. 81-2); to 30th June, 1916 (Labour Bulletin No. 14, pp. 189-90); to 30th September, 1916, (Labour Bulletin No. 15, p.p. 299-300); and to 31st December, 1916 (Labour Report No. 7, pp. 423-4).

† Particulars relate to the **Average Weighted** weekly wage, working hours and hourly wage, respectively. ‡ Average rates of wage and hours prevailing at the principal mining centres in each State. ¶ Average rates of wage are for occupations other than Masters, Officers, and Engineers in the Merchant Marine Service, and include value of victualling and accommodation, where provided, at 45s. per month, but does not include value of commission on bar sales to stewards. In the recent award for Masters and Officers on inter-State and intra-State merchant vessels, the annual value of victualling and accommodation, which was estimated in 1910 at £30, was computed to be £43 17s. § Average wage includes value of board and lodging (estimated at 15s. per week) where provided. § See footnotes to Table on page 67.

(ii.) *Females*.—On page 68 index-numbers are given, with respect to the relative average *weekly* rate of wage for adult female workers in each State; the corresponding index-numbers for the *hourly* rate, taking the average for the whole Commonwealth as base (= 1000), are as follows:—New South Wales, 999; Victoria, 1011; Queensland, 932; South Australia, 894; Western Australia, 1342; and Tasmania, 963.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly and Hourly Rates of Wage payable to Adult Female Workers, and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st March, 1917.*

Industrial Groups.	Particulars.†	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Average for Six Capital Towns.
III. Food, Drink, etc.	Weekly Wage	25/10	26/5	20/9	23/3	21/3	24/9	25/6
	Working Hours	48.00	48.00	48.00	48.00	48.00	48.00	48.00
	Hourly Wage	-6½	-6½	-5½	-5½	-5½	-6½	-6½
IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.	Weekly Wage	29/5	26/9	24/2	22/10	35/11	26/2	27/4
	Working Hours	47.86	48.00	48.00	48.00	48.00	46.50	47.92
	Hourly Wage	-7¼	-6½	-6	-5¾	-9	-6¾	-6¾
I. II. V. & VI. All other Manufacturing	Weekly Wage	29/1	30/10	25/7	27/9	..	32/-	29/8
	Working Hours	47.17	47.90	47.43	48.00	..	48.00	47.59
	Hourly Wage	-7½	-7½	-6½	-7	..	-8	-7½
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	Weekly Wage†	29/8	30/3	32/10	29/3	42/5	32/8	31/8
	Working Hours	53.17	50.46	55.17	50.67	50.20	58.00	52.40
	Hourly Wage	-6¾	-7¼	-7¼	-7	-10¼	-6¾	-7¼
XIV. Shop Assistants, Clerks, etc.	Weekly Wage	28/9	33/4	28/9	28/3	..	..	30/4
	Working Hours	50.29	48.00	48.00	49.00	..	..	49.03
	Hourly Wage	-6¾	-8¼	-7¼	-7	..	..	-7½
All Groups ..	Weekly Wage	29/1	28/10	27/5	25/9	38/10	28/4	28/11
	Working Hours	49.44	48.32	49.84	48.76	49.08	49.83	48.98
	Hourly Wage	-7	-7½	-6½	-6½	-9½	-6½	-7

* For details as to previous publications, see footnote to table on previous page. † The particulars relate to the **Average Weighted** weekly rates of wage, working hours and hourly wage, respectively. ‡ The value of board and lodging (estimated at 15s. per week for Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide, and Hobart, and at 14s. and 22s. per week for Melbourne and Perth respectively), is included where provided, in order that the rate may be comparable with those paid in other industries.

4. In the following table the weighted average nominal weekly rate of wage for adult workers (male and female separately), is shewn for each State and the Commonwealth, as at the 30th April, 1914, and approximately quarterly intervals to the 31st March, 1917:—

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rate of Wage Payable to Adult Workers for a Full Week's Work in each State and Commonwealth, 30th April, 1914, to 31st March, 1917.

Dates.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
MALES.							
30th April, 1914*	s. d. 55 9	s. d. 54 3	s. d. 52 8	s. d. 54 4	s. d. 62 2	s. d. 52 6	s. d. 55 1
30th June, 1914	55 11	54 4	52 10	54 4	62 9	52 7	55 3
30th September, 1914 ..	56 2	54 7	53 4	54 5	62 10	52 8	55 6
31st December, 1914* ..	56 2	54 7	53 5	54 5	62 10	52 8	55 7
31st March, 1915*	56 3	54 8	53 4	54 3	63 1	52 9	55 7
30th June, 1915*	56 8	54 8	53 4	54 3	63 1	52 9	55 9
30th September, 1915* ..	56 10	54 11	53 8	54 3	63 1	52 9	56 0
31st December, 1915* ..	57 7	55 3	54 4	54 8	63 4	53 3	56 6
31st March, 1916*	58 2	56 7	55 1	55 8	63 4	53 9	57 3
30th June, 1916*	58 11	57 0	56 5	56 1	63 4	54 4	57 11
30th September, 1916* ..	59 6	57 9	57 11	56 6	63 8	54 9	58 8
31st December, 1916* ..	61 11	58 10	60 4	59 0	65 2	57 0	60 8
31st March, 1917	62 7	60 0	61 2	59 8	65 5	57 6	61 5

* See footnote on next page.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rate of Wage payable to Adult Workers for a Full Week's Work in each State and Commonwealth, 30th April, 1914, to 31st March, 1917—cont.

Date.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
FEMALES.							
30th April, 1914*	s. d. 26 9	s. d. 27 4	s. d. 26 11	s. d. 24 1	s. d. 37 4	s. d. 25 10	s. d. 27 2
30th June, 1914	26 9	27 4	27 0	24 1	37 4	25 10	27 2
30th September, 1914	26 10	27 9	26 11	24 1	37 4	25 10	27 4
31st December, 1914*	26 10	27 9	27 1	24 1	37 4	25 10	27 5
31st March, 1915*	26 10	26 11	27 2	24 0	37 5	26 3	27 1
30th June, 1915*	27 2	26 11	27 2	24 0	37 5	26 3	27 2
30th September, 1915*	27 3	26 11	26 11	24 0	37 5	28 0	27 3
31st December, 1915*	27 5	26 11	26 11	24 6	37 5	28 0	27 4
31st March, 1916*	27 7	27 11	26 11	24 6	37 5	28 4	27 9
30th June, 1916*	27 7	27 11	26 11	24 6	37 5	27 9	27 9
30th September, 1916*	27 11	28 2	27 2	24 10	37 5	27 9	28 1
31st December, 1916*	28 7	28 5	27 3	24 10	38 10	28 3	28 5
31st March, 1917	29 1	28 10	27 5	25 9	38 10	28 4	28 11

* Details have been published as follows:—To 30th April, 1914 (Labour Report No. 5, pp. 44-6); to 31st December, 1914 (Labour Bulletin No. 8, pp. 256-8); to 31st March, 1915 (Labour Bulletin No. 9, pp. 63-71); to 30th June, 1915 (Labour Bulletin No. 10, pp. 170-6), to 30th September, 1915 (Labour Bulletin No. 11, pp. 264-5), to 31st December, 1915 (Labour Bulletin No. 12, pp. 413-15), to 31st March, 1916 (Labour Bulletin No. 13, pp. 82-3), to 30th June, 1916, (Labour Bulletin No. 14, pp. 190-1), and to 30th September, 1916 (Labour Bulletin No. 15, pp. 300-1); and to 31st December, 1916 (Labour Report No. 7, pp. 423-4).

(i.) *Adult Male Workers.*—It will be seen that the weighted average nominal weekly rate of wage for adult male workers for the whole Commonwealth advanced during the period reviewed by 6s. 4d., or 11.5 per cent. Increases above the weighted average increase are shown for Queensland and New South Wales, being 8s. 6d., and 6s. 10d. respectively. In each of the other States the increase was below the average, being in Victoria 5s. 9d.; South Australia, 5s. 4d.; Tasmania, 5s.; and in Western Australia, 3s. 3d. At the 30th April, 1914, the highest average rate of wage was 62s. 2d. in Western Australia, followed in the order named by New South Wales, South Australia, Victoria, Queensland and Tasmania. At the 31st March, 1917, the positions of the States remained unaltered, with the exception that both Queensland and Victoria had displaced South Australia.

(ii.) *Adult Female Workers.*—During the period covered by the table the weighted average nominal weekly rate of wage for adult female workers, for the whole Commonwealth, shews considerably less movement, being 1s. 9d. per week only, or about 6.1 per cent. The greatest increase in any one State occurred in Tasmania, where the weighted average nominal weekly wage advanced from 25s. 10d. to 28s. 4d., equal to 9.7 per cent. This was due to substantial increases being awarded to workers in the jam and fruit preserving, bootmaking, clothing and other manufacturing industries. New South Wales, South Australia and Victoria are the only other States in which any appreciable increase is shewn, the amount of which is in New South Wales, 2s. 4d., or 8.7 per cent.; South Australia, 1s. 8d., or 6.9 per cent.; Victoria, 1s. 6d., or 5.0 per cent.; Western Australia, 1s. 6d., or 4 per cent.; and Queensland, 6d., or 1.9 per cent. The decrease of 5d. in Victoria, between the 30th April, 1914, and the end of 1915, was brought about by the reduction, on appeal, of the minimum rates of wage to female clerks and stenographers.

5. **Weighted Average Weekly and Hourly Wage Index-Numbers by States, 30th April, 1914, to 31st March, 1917.**—In Labour Report No. 6, page 64, attention was drawn to the steady diminution in the number of working hours which constitute a full weeks work,* mainly in male occupations, which is being effected by awards, determinations and agreements, and its influence on the weighted average hourly rate of wage in contrast with the movement in the weekly rate of wage in each State. For the purpose of demonstrating the extent of this influence in each State and for the Commonwealth, the weighted average rates of weekly and hourly wage respectively, at the 30th April, 1914, and at approximately half-yearly intervals to the 31st March, 1917, are expressed in the following tables, in the form of index-numbers based on the respective relative weighted averages for the Commonwealth at the 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1000).

Index-Numbers for Weekly and Hourly Weighted Average Rates of Wage, 30th April, 1914, 31st December, 1914, and at Half-yearly Periods to 31st March, 1917.

NOTE.—Weighted Average for the Commonwealth at 30th April, 1914, i.e., 55s. 1d. per week, and 13.96d. per hour in male occupations, and 27s. 2d. per week, and 6.64d. per hour in female occupations respectively, as base (= 1000).

Particulars.†		N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth
ADULT MALE WORKERS.								
30th April, 1914.	Weekly Wage ..	1,011	984	955	986	1,128	952	1,000
	Hourly Wage ..	998	980	963	991	1,170	933	1,000
31st Dec., 1914.	Weekly Wage ..	1,019	990	969	988	1,140	956	1,008
	Hourly Wage ..	1,010	990	985	993	1,173	936	1,009
30th June, 1915.	Weekly Wage ..	1,028	992	967	984	1,145	957	1,012
	Hourly Wage ..	1,024	994	981	996	1,179	939	1,016
31st Dec., 1915.	Weekly Wage ..	1,044	1,002	986	992	1,149	965	1,023
	Hourly Wage ..	1,039	1,006	1,008	1,001	1,182	946	1,030
30th June, 1916.	Weekly Wage ..	1,069	1,035	1,024	1,018	1,149	986	1,051
	Hourly Wage ..	1,074	1,046	1,042	1,032	1,183	976	1,063
31st Dec., 1916.	Weekly Wage ..	1,123	1,067	1,095	1,071	1,182	1,034	1,100
	Hourly Wage ..	1,127	1,074	1,097	1,075	1,206	1,011	1,105
31st March, 1917.	Weekly Wage ..	1,136	1,089	1,110	1,083	1,186	1,044	1,115
	Hourly Wage ..	1,143	1,092	1,117	1,092	1,212	1,023	1,126
ADULT FEMALE WORKERS.								
30th April, 1914.	Weekly Wage ..	984	1,006	989	885	1,373	950	1,000
	Hourly Wage ..	980	1,021	976	881	1,386	920	1,000
31st Dec., 1914.	Weekly Wage ..	987	1,022	996	885	1,373	950	1,008
	Hourly Wage ..	983	1,035	983	881	1,364	920	1,009
30th June, 1915.	Weekly Wage ..	998	989	999	883	1,376	964	1,000
	Hourly Wage ..	994	1,003	985	880	1,357	934	1,000
31st Dec., 1915.	Weekly Wage ..	1,007	990	990	901	1,376	1,031	1,005
	Hourly Wage ..	1,002	1,005	976	898	1,357	1,011	1,006
30th June, 1916.	Weekly Wage ..	1,013	1,027	991	902	1,376	1,019	1,021
	Hourly Wage ..	1,009	1,042	977	898	1,378	986	1,023
31st Dec., 1916.	Weekly Wage ..	1,050	1,047	1,004	915	1,429	1,041	1,047
	Hourly Wage ..	1,044	1,063	991	916	1,431	1,027	1,048
31st March, 1917.	Weekly Wage ..	1,072	1,061	1,009	947	1,430	1,042	1,064
	Hourly Wage ..	1,065	1,078	994	953	1,431	1,027	1,066

* This phase of industrial economics is at present being investigated, and results obtained by the inquiry will be published at a later date.

† Particulars relate to the weekly and hourly rates of wage, as set out on pages 70 and 71.

It may be observed from the table on the preceding page relating to male occupations, that the weighted average nominal weekly rate of wage for the Commonwealth, increased between the periods specified to the extent of 11.5 per cent., whereas the computed hourly rate of wage increased to the extent of 12.6 per cent., the difference, 1.1 per cent., being due to the relatively shorter hours comprising a full week's work at the different periods. This feature is common in varying degrees to each of the States with the exception of Tasmania. In Western Australia, owing to a more definite interpretation of an award for employees in hotels, restaurants and other catering establishments, a slight increase is shewn in the weighted average number of hours which constitute a full week's work, and this difference is reflected in its operation on the hourly rate of wage.

The rate of progression in this movement has been largely influenced by the introduction in the Eastern States of the Commonwealth of a 44-hour week (five and a half working days of 8 hours each) in lieu of 48 hours (five days of 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ hours each, and one of 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ hours) in some of the building trades, and the recent reduction of working hours in the mining industry.

The weighted average working hours per week* in each of the States is now less than 49, and is steadily approaching the recognised 48-hour level.

With regard to female occupations, it may be seen that (apart from the effect of the adjustment of working hours in the hotel, etc., industry in Western Australia, already mentioned) the weekly and hourly rates of wage have increased in practically equal ratios, indicating little movement in the weekly hours of labour.

* *Vide* table on page 70. The computations cover all industrial classes, with the exception of classes XI. and XII. (Shipping and Pastoral, Agricultural, etc., respectively), in which hours of labour have not generally been fixed by any industrial tribunal.

SECTION VIII.—OPERATIONS UNDER ARBITRATION AND WAGES BOARDS ACTS.

1. **General.**—In the quarterly Labour Bulletin for the fourth quarter of the year 1914, and in each subsequent issue of that publication, comparative statements have been included setting out particulars relating to operations (effected during each contemporary quarter) under the Commonwealth Arbitration Acts, the State Arbitration Court and the Wages Boards Acts ; also of the total number of Boards authorised, constituted and in existence ; and of awards, determinations and industrial agreements, etc., in force at the end of each consecutive period. In the later numbers a brief review has also been furnished respecting new legislation of an industrial character, information respecting noteworthy pronouncements or procedure by industrial tribunals, and any special application or conditions of the terms of awards or determinations. Owing to considerable diversity in procedure with respect to the gazettal of minor variations of subsisting awards and determinations, made in each State and under the Commonwealth Arbitration Acts, operations of that character, although numerous, are not specifically recorded. Particulars are also included of the estimated number of workpeople in each State whose employment is regulated by the terms of awards, determinations and industrial agreements filed under State Acts. These estimates were compiled prior to the advent of the war, and have not, for want of material information, been revised, and allowance made for enlistments in the Defence Forces.

2. **Boards Authorised and Awards, Determinations and Industrial Agreements made and in Force.**—In this sub-section particulars are set out in tabular form for each State and under the Commonwealth Arbitration Acts respectively of (a) The number of awards and determinations made and industrial agreements filed during the quarter ended 31st March, 1917, and the four immediately preceding quarters ; (b) The total number of Boards authorised and constituted, and of awards, determinations and industrial agreements in force at the 31st March, 1917 ; and (c) The aggregate number of Boards, awards, etc., respectively at 31st December, 1913, and at approximately quarterly intervals to 31st March, 1917.

Awards and Determinations Made and Industrial Agreements Filed, 1st January, 1916, to 31st March, 1917.

State, etc.	1916.								1917.	
	1st Quarter.		2nd Quarter.		3rd Quarter.		4th Quarter.		1st Quarter.	
	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements Filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements Filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements Filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements Filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements Filed.
N. S. Wales	28	7	53	14	53	14	66	14	35	14
Victoria	34	..	21	..	18	..	13	..	13	..
Queensland	11	2	26	27	18	8	14	5	15	3
S. Australia	5	3	7	2	10	..	7	1	13	..
W. Australia	3	2	6	3	1	3	4	5	..	1
Tasmania	3	..	7	..	3	..	1	..	1	..
Commonwealth .. ..	..	2	5	3	4	5	5	11	1	65*
TOTAL	84	16	125	49	107	30	110	36	83	83

* Including 55 separate agreements made between the Australian Saddlery and Leather Workers Trades Employees' Federation and various employers.

It will be seen from the above table that during the period reviewed the number of awards made in New South Wales were in excess of those for any other State. The number of awards and determinations made in Victoria, Queensland and South Australia was slightly higher than in the preceding quarter. In New South Wales, the number of awards made shews a considerable reduction. One award was made by the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Court during the period under review.

A general brief review is here given respecting new legislation (if any), and other noteworthy incidents in each State relating to the work of Industrial Courts, Wages Boards, and other tribunals appointed to regulate wages and working conditions.

(i.) *New South Wales.*—Industrial Boards were authorised and constituted in this State for “all persons employed in or in connection with the manufacture, packing, or ‘putting up’ of vinegar, blue, pickles, sauce and wet condiments in the County of Cumberland,” and for “all persons employed in or in connection with the preparation for and packing of tea in packages in the County of Cumberland.” Awards made during the three months numbered 35, of which the following were made for the first time in connection with the industry specified, viz., ambulance employees and bag and sack repairers. Fourteen industrial agreements were filed during the quarter.

Two additional judges of the Court of Industrial Arbitration were appointed in this State during February. The appointments were made in accordance with the provisions of the Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act 1916.

An application for the cancellation of the registration as an Industrial Union of the Australasian Meat Industry Employees' Union (New South Wales Branch) was made to the Court by the Minister in January, and an order absolute for cancellation was made on the 19th February.

The case for the application for the cancellation was that the Union had been concerned in a strike by shop employees and was threatening strikes against certain wholesale butchers. Summonses issued by the Court at the instance of the Minister against the same union and the secretary for offences against Sections 47 and 45 respectively were also before the Court during February. Both respondents were convicted, the Court imposing upon the union a penalty of £1000, and upon the secretary a penalty of £50.

(ii.) *Victoria*.—A Wages Board for “Hospital Attendants” was authorised and constituted in this State during January. Sixteen determinations were made by Wages Boards during the quarter, and the Court of Industrial Appeals issued judgments regarding the appeals against the determinations of the Commercial Clerks and Quarrymen’s Boards. A Court of Industrial Appeal was constituted to hear the appeal against the determination of the Stonecutters’ Board.

A Railways Classification Board was appointed in this State during March. The Board consisted of three members selected by the Railway Commissioners, and two elected by the staff. One of the representatives selected by the Commissioners was appointed chairman. The function of the Board was to submit recommendations to the Commissioners respecting the rates of salary or wages to be paid in each grade of the service, and such other questions affecting working conditions as may be referred to it. Considerable dissatisfaction existed in the service at the appointment of the Board, as certain sections of the staff were in favour of the constitution of independent industrial boards for railway employees. The result of the Classification Board’s enquiry as to the basic wage for railway employees will be furnished in the next issue of the Labour Bulletin.

(iii.) *Queensland*.—In this State fifteen awards were made, and three industrial agreements were filed during the quarter under review. The Industrial Arbitration Act 1916 came into operation in January, and all Boards (with the exception of two Boards which had matters pending or partly heard) appointed under the provisions of the Industrial Peace Act 1912 were dissolved (see section 38 of the new Act). The two Boards which had not been dissolved at the 31st March were the Brisbane Bread and Pastry Cooking Trade Board and the Musical Instrument Makers’ Board.

(iv.) *South Australia*.—The determination of the Agricultural Machinery and Implement Makers’ Board was quashed by the Industrial Court in January, and the operation of the determination of the Hair-dressers’ Board was suspended during the same month. Thirteen awards and determinations were made by the Industrial Court and Wages Boards during the quarter.

(v.) *Other States*.—In Western Australia and Tasmania the Industrial Court and Wages Boards were not active during the quarter under review.

In Tasmania an Act to amend the “Wages Board Act 1910” was enacted on the 23rd February, 1917. Section 4 of the principal Act was amended by extending the meaning of the term “apprentice” by adding

the words, "or any person who, unable by reason of his age to complete his term of apprenticeship before reaching the age of twenty-one years, had obtained a licence from the Minister to be indentured."

Section 5 (Appointment of Wages Boards) was amended by the addition of provisions regarding the dissolution of Boards, the period of office for which members of Boards were appointed, and the appointment by the Governor of new Boards to take the place of Boards which have been dissolved.

Section 9 (Constitution of Board) was amended in so far as the qualifications of representatives of employers and employees appointed on Boards were concerned.

Section 14 (Appointment of Chairman) was repealed and re-enacted. Provision was made amongst others that the Chairman of every Board shall be appointed by the Governor by proclamation, and shall be a person holding the office of Police Magistrate. The same person may be appointed Chairman of any number of Boards.

Section 20 (Objects and Duties of Boards) was amended and added to. Special clauses regarding the limitation of apprentices were inserted.

Other sections which were either repealed, amended or added to were:—*Sections 22 (Principles of Determination by Boards)*; *23 (Special Provisions for Apprentices)*; *30 (Duration and Publication of Determinations)*; *43 (Penalty for not paying Wages fixed)*. *Sections 44, 56, 57, 62 and 64* were also amended.

(vi.) *Commonwealth*.—One award regulating the wages and working conditions of glassfounders was made by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration during the quarter. Sixty-five industrial agreements were filed during the same period. Of this number fifty-five were agreements regulating the wages and working conditions of saddlers and leather workers in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and South Australia. Storemen and packers, smelters, waterside workers, hairdressers, tramway employees, clothing employees engaged in manufacturing garments for the Defence Department, marine engineers and bacon curers filed agreements under the provisions of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act during the three months under review.

The War Precautions Coal Board, appointed in November last to regulate the wages and working conditions of employees in the coal-mining industry, issued a number of orders during January, February and March. *Order No. 4* dealt with matters concerning the Muswellbrook, Curlewis, Gunnedah and Rosedale Collieries in New South Wales; *Order No. 5* regulated certain working conditions at the South Clifton and South Clifton New Tunnel Collieries; *Order No. 6* provided for the price to be charged for gas by certain gas companies in Sydney; *Order No. 7* provided for an increase in the price of refined oils supplied by John Fell & Company, Newnes and Sydney; *Order No. 8* agreed to the terms of an agreement regarding working conditions between the Australasian Coal and Shale Employees' Federation and the proprietors of the Rosedale, Muswellbrook, Curlewis & Gunnedah Coal Mines; *Order No. 9* dealt with the price to be charged for refined oils supplied by John Fell & Company, Newnes and Sydney, and *Order No. 10*, issued on the 28th March, regulated the wages and working conditions of coal miners in

Western Australia. A clause in this Order provided that the terms and conditions of employment set out in the Order should be registered as an industrial agreement in the Arbitration Court of Western Australia, so that the compliance with the said terms and conditions may be enforced by that Court.

The following tabular statement gives particulars of operations under the various Acts, as recorded up to and at the 31st March, 1917 :—

Boards Authorised and Constituted, Awards, Determinations and Agreements in Force, 31st March, 1917.

Particulars.	C'with	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total.
1. Boards Authorised, Constituted, and in Force								
Number of Boards authorised .. ..	..	*236	147	†2	57	..	33	475
„ „ constituted .. ..	..	*236	145	†2	55	..	32	470
„ „ in existence .. ..	..	*236	145	†2	55	..	32	470
2. Boards Constituted which have made Awards or Determinations—								
Number of Boards which had made or varied awards or determinations .. ..	..	214	138	†97	49	..	31	529
„ „ which had not made any award or determination .. ..	..	22	7	2	§6	..	1	38
3. Number of Awards and Determinations in Force†	37	269	142	120	63	60	31	722
4. Scope of State Awards and Determinations—								
Number applying to the whole State .. ..	..	13	16	8	..	..	23	60
„ „ Metropolitan area only .. ..	..	79	1	34	56	33	2	205
„ „ Metropolitan and Country towns .. ..	..	53	115	20	2	5	6	201
„ „ Country areas .. ..	..	124	10	58	5	22	..	219
5. Number of Commonwealth Awards in Force in each State .. ..	..	29	30	21	26	16	22	..
6. Industrial Agreements in Force	439	78	..	60	16	73	..	666
7. Number of Commonwealth Agreements in Force in each State .. ..	..	133	271	45	48	37	39	..
8. Number of Persons working under State Awards, Determinations and Industrial Agreements (estimated)** .. ..**	..	260,000	150,000	90,000	25,000	32,000	12,000	569,000

* Excluding Special Demarcation Boards. † All Boards (with the exception of those which had matters pending or partly heard) appointed under the Industrial Peace Act 1912 were dissolved on the 12th January, 1917, when the Industrial Arbitration Act 1916 came into force. Two Boards, constituted under the Industrial Peace Act 1912, had not been dissolved at the 31st March, 1917. The number of Boards (97), shewn as having made determinations, have been dissolved.

‡ Including awards made by Industrial Courts. § Four of these Boards have not made determinations, but the Industrial Court has made four Orders covering the occupations for which such Boards were authorised. The other two Boards have made determinations which have been quashed by the Industrial Court.

** Not including any allowance for persons who have enlisted in the A.I.F.

It may be observed that in New South Wales and Victoria the number of awards in force are in excess of the number of Boards which had made awards. In explanation it may be mentioned that several Boards in New South Wales and one Board in Victoria (Furniture) have made separate awards for different branches of an industry, or to operate in different districts for the same industry. In Queensland and in South Australia the difference is due to the inclusion of awards made by the Industrial Court on submissions relating to industries either not under a Board or for which a Board has failed to make a determination.

As regards the territorial scope of awards and determinations made by the industrial tribunal in each State, it will be seen that 60 apply to

the whole of a State, 205 to one of the metropolitan areas, 201 to metropolitan and country areas, and the remaining 219 apply to country areas only.*

The total number of industrial agreements in force was 666. Of this number, 439 were filed under section 24 or Part VI. respectively, of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act. The total number of awards, determinations, and industrial agreements in force under the various Acts at the 31st March, 1917, was 1388, comprising 722 awards and determinations and 666 industrial agreements.

Particulars of Boards and of Awards, Determinations and Industrial Agreements in Force at 31st December, 1913, and at Approximately Quarterly Periods to 31st March, 1917.

Dates.	Boards Authorised.	Boards Constituted.	Boards in Existence.	Boards which had made Awards or Determinations	Awards or Determinations in Force†	Industrial Agreements in Force.
31st Dec., 1913*	504	501	484	387||	575§	401
30th April, 1914*	525	509	492	422||	575	415
30th June, 1914*	537	523	504	457||	584	429
30th Sept., 1914*	549	539	517	474	599	409
31st Dec., 1914*	553	544	522	478	576+	369
31st March, 1915*	560	551	526	486	589†	371
30th June, 1915*	568	557	532	495	638	481
30th Sept., 1915*	582	570	536	495	644	498
31st Dec., 1915 *	573¶	554¶	546	498	663	546
31st March, 1916*	580	558	542	495	651	553
30th June, 1916*	589	571	555	512	678	581
30th Sept., 1916*	591	573	557	519	683	596
31st Dec., 1916 *	594	572	554	525	706	609
31st March, 1917	475**	470**	470**	529††	722	666

* For details of operations during each quarter, see previous issues of the Labour Bulletin.

† Including awards made by Arbitration Courts.

‡ Owing to certain restrictions being imposed on the operations of Industrial Boards in each State, a number of awards which expired in New South Wales during these periods were not immediately reviewed.

§ Excluding awards or determinations which expired in New South Wales (under the Act of 1908) on 31st December, 1913.

|| Owing to a number of Awards made under the N.S.W. Industrial Disputes Act (1908) being still in force, the Boards constituted for such industries under the Industrial Arbitration Act (1912) had not made any awards.

¶ See remarks with respect to re-authorisation of Boards in New South Wales, Labour Bulletin No. 12, p. 47.

** Reduction in the number of Boards authorised, constituted, and in existence is due to the dissolution of all Boards appointed under the Queensland Industrial Peace Act 1912.

†† Including 97 Boards appointed under the Queensland Industrial Peace Act 1912. These Boards had made Determinations, but were dissolved in January, 1917, under the provisions of the Industrial Arbitration Act 1916.

From the above table it may be observed that considerable expansion of the principle of the fixation of a prescribed minimum wage has developed within the Commonwealth. Within the period reviewed, 147 additional awards or determinations and 265 additional industrial agreements have come into force.

* In New South Wales awards applying to County Cumberland are included in the number set out for the metropolitan area; those applying to the metropolitan area and to the Whole State, excluding the County of Yancowinna, Newcastle, are included in the number set out for the metropolitan and county areas; while those applying to County Northumberland and the State excluding the Metropolitan Area are included in the number set out for country areas. In Victoria the majority of determinations apply to the Metropolitan area as defined by the Factories and Shops Acts, and to all cities and towns, and the boroughs of Eaglehawk, Geelong West, Newtown and Chilwell and Sebastopol. In Queensland awards applying to the South Eastern Division, including Brisbane, are shewn as applying to metropolitan and country towns. In Tasmania the metropolitan area refers to Hobart only.

SECTION IX.—ASSISTED IMMIGRANTS.

1. **General.**—In the following table, particulars are given of the total number of immigrants, the cost of whose passage was wholly or partly defrayed by the State Governments, up to the end of the year 1909, and the number arriving during each year since that date :—

Commonwealth.—Number of Assisted, Selected, or Nominated Immigrants.

Particulars.	To end of 1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917. 1st Qr.	Total.
No. of Immigrants ..	669,885	16,781	39,796	46,712	37,445	20,805	5,796	1,397	375	838,992

During the seven years 1910 to 1916, the average number of assisted immigrants was 6026 per quarter, and in 1916, 349 per quarter. The number of assisted immigrants arriving during the first quarter of 1917 was 375, and during the last quarter of 1916, 190; hence the number arriving during the first quarter of 1917 was 93.8 per cent. lower than the average for the seven years 1910 to 1916, 7.4 per cent. higher than the average for 1916, and 97.4 per cent. higher than the number arriving during the last quarter of 1916.

2. The following table shews the number of selected and nominated immigrants arriving in each State during the first quarter of the year 1917 :—

Assisted Immigrants.—Number Arriving in each State, January to March, 1917.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
Selected—							
Males ..	8	5	9	..	..	..	22
Females ..	3	17	22	..	..	..	42
Nominated—							
Males ..	48	24	14	..	5	..	91
Females ..	107	44	46	..	21	2	220
Total ..	166	90	91	..	26	2	375

During the first quarter of 1917, there arrived in Australia 185 more assisted immigrants than during the previous quarter, New South Wales shewing an increase of 57, Victoria of 32, Queensland of 91, and Western Australia 11, while Tasmania shewed a decrease of 6.

3. The following table gives particulars of assisted immigrants, of each sex, classified according to industrial groups, dependants being specified separately :—

**Assisted Immigrants.—Classified according to Sex and Industrial Group,
January to March, 1917.**

Industry.	Males.	Females.	Industry.	Males.	Females.
I. Wood, Timber, Furniture, etc. . . . .	..	..	IX. Rail and Tramway Services . . . . .	..	..
II. Engineering, Metals, etc. . . . .	..	..	X. Other Land Transport . . . . .	..	..
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. . . . .	..	1	XI. Shipping, Wharf Labour, etc. . . . .	..	..
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc.	1	9	XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, Rural, etc.	17*	..
V. Books, Printing, Binding, etc. . . . .	..	..	XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc. . . . .	..	84
VI. Other Manufacturing . . . . .	..	1	XIV. General Labour and Miscellaneous	8	20
VII. Building	2	..	Dependants { Adults	13	86
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. . . . .	..	..	Dependants { Children under 12 years	72	61
			TOTAL	113	262

* Including 6 "Dreadnought Farm Boys" arriving in New South Wales.

Out of the total number of assisted immigrants, the larger percentage, viz., 69.9, were females. The number of children under 12 years of age was 35.5 per cent. of the whole number.

As regards males, the number of dependants was 85, or 75.2 per cent. of the whole, while 17, or 15.0 per cent. of the total, were in Group XII. (Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.). Of these agricultural immigrants, 8 arrived in New South Wales, 4 in Victoria, and 5 in Queensland. Of the 262 female immigrants, 147, or 56.1 per cent., were dependants, and 84, or 32.1 per cent., were in Group XIII. (Domestic, Hotels, etc.), and of these, 34 were selected and 50 nominated. The number of females in Group XIII. who arrived in the various States were :—New South Wales, 26 ; Victoria, 27 ; Queensland, 26 and Western Australia, 5.

SECTION X.—STATE FREE EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX.

1. **General.**—In the following paragraphs, particulars are given of the operations of the various State Labour Bureaux. In Labour Report No. 6 (page 130), attention was drawn to the fact that the systems adopted in the various States for the registration of applications for work and from employers are not uniform, and that the comparisons which can be drawn from the figures shewing the results of the operations of these Bureaux are subject to certain limitations.

2. The following table shews the total number of applications for employment and from employers, and the number of positions filled during the years 1913, 1914, 1915, and 1916, and the first quarter of 1917.

State Free Employment Bureaux.—Applications for Employment and from Employers, and Positions Filled in the Commonwealth, during the Years 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, and the First Quarter of 1917.

Year.	Applications for Employment.			Applications from Employers.			Positions filled.
	On Live Register at Beginning of Period.	Received during Period.	Total.	On Live Register at Beginning of Period.	Received during Period.	Total.	
1913	2,520	81,356	83,876	*321	*26,103	*26,424	35,312
1914	2,326	100,917	103,243	*1,017	*29,223	*30,240	37,365
1915	9,075	102,264	111,339	†370	†20,900	†21,270	39,069
1916	7,345	85,349	92,694	†1,758	†34,982	†36,740	42,384
1917—1st Quarter ..	5,487	19,920	25,407	†991	†7,059	†8,053	9,857

* Exclusive of Victoria and South Australia, for which States particulars are not available.

† Exclusive of Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia.

During the first quarter of 1917, out of every 1000 applications 388 obtained work, as against 400 for the preceding quarter, 457 in 1916, 351 in 1915, 361 in 1914, and 421 in 1913.

3. The following table shews the number of applications for employment and from employers, and the number of positions filled in each State during the first quarter of 1917. It will be seen that the total number of applications for employment was 25,407, as against 24,002 for the preceding quarter, an increase of 5.9 per cent.; and the number of positions filled 9,857, as against 9,598, an increase of 2.7 per cent.

State Free Employment Bureaux.—Applications for Employment and from Employers, and Positions Filled in different States, January to March, 1917.

State.	Applications for Employment.			Applications from Employers.			Positions filled.
	On Live Register at Beginning of Quarter.	Received during Quarter.	Total.	On Live Register at Beginning of Quarter.	Received during Quarter.	Total.	
New South Wales .. ..	..	4,104	4,104	111	2,772	2,883	2,538*
Victoria	1,850	3,949	5,799	†	†	†	1,011
Queensland	3,165	7,411	10,576	883	4,278	5,161	3,706*
South Australia	403	2,522	2,925	†	†	†	1,302*
Western Australia	69	1,920	1,989	†	†	†	1,291
Tasmania .. ..	..	14	14	..	9	9	9
Commonwealth	5,487	19,920	25,407	994	7,059	8,053	9,857

* Including persons who received advances of travelling expenses from the Labour Bureau, but who were not directly engaged through the medium of that institution. † Not available.

4. The following table furnishes particulars for the first quarter of 1917 of the operations of the Free Labour Bureaux, classified according to industrial groups :—

State Free Employment Bureaux.—Applications for Employment and from Employers, and Positions Filled in different Industrial Occupations, January to March, 1917.

Industrial Group.	Applications for Employment.			§§ Applications from Employers.			Positions filled. ||
	¶ On Live Register at Beginning of Quarter.	Received during Quarter.	¶ Total.	On Live Register at Beginning of Quarter.	Received during Quarter.	Total.	
I. Wood, Furniture, Saw-mill, Timber Workers, etc.	421	971	1,392	16	331	347	391
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.* ..	410	967	1,377	28	101	129	134
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc.	51	121	172	7	43	50	41
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc.	5	75	80	24	139	163	60
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	35	61	96	..	25	25	22
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	..	49	49	30	6	36	31
VII. Building	261	2,144	2,405	2	425	427	503
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc.	41	323	364	..	164	164	177
IX. Rail and Tram Services†	699	3,711	4,410	..	1,529	1,529	2,654
X. Other Land Transport ..	..	48	48	..	1	1	5
XI. Shipping, Wharf Labour, etc.	4	8	12	..	..	..	..
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, Rural, etc.‡	944	2,133	3,077	189	789	978	1,326
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	264	2,655	2,919	293	1,959	2,252	2,021
XIV. General Labour and Miscellaneous.§ ..	2,283	6,654	8,937	405	1,547	1,952	2,492
TOTAL	5,487**	19,920	25,407**	994	7,059	8,053	9,857

* Including railway and tramway workshops. † Excluding railway and tramway workshops but including construction and maintenance of permanent way and works. ‡ Including horticultural, viticultural and gardening. § Excluding railway and tramway employees and labourers employed on railway and tramway construction and maintenance. || Including persons in New South Wales who received advances of travelling expenses from the Labour Bureau, but who were not directly engaged through the medium of that institution. ¶ Exclusive of Western Australia. ** Inclusive of Western Australia. §§ Exclusive of Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia.

In each group, the number of applicants for work was greater than the number of positions vacant. The following table shews the number of positions filled for every 1000 applications for work in the seven groups in which the number of applications exceeded 1000, for the fourth quarter of 1916, and the first quarter of 1917 :—

Industrial Group.	No. of Positions Filled for every 1,000 Applications.	
	October to December, 1916.	January to March, 1917.
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	257	281
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	112	97
VII. Building	357	209
IX. Rail and Tram Services	710	602
XII. Pastoral, Rural, etc.	386	431
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	641	692
XIV. Miscellaneous	293	279

5. The following table gives particulars, for male and female workers separately, of the number of applications for employment, and from employers, and the number of positions filled during the first quarter of 1917 :—

State Free Employment Bureaux.—Applications and Positions Filled, Males and Females, January to March, 1917.

Particulars.	Applications for Employment.			*Applications from Employers.			Posi- tions filled.
	On Live Register at Beginning of Quarter.	Received during Quarter.	Total.	On Live Register at Beginning of Quarter.	Received during Quarter.	Total.	
Males	5,246	17,381	22,627	687	5,123	5,810	7,908
Females	241	2,539	2,780	307	1,936	2,243	1,949
TOTAL	5,487	19,920	25,407	994	7,059	8,053	9,857

* Exclusive of Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia.

Of the total number of registrations for employment, 22,627, or 89.1 per cent., were from males, and 2780 from females; in the preceding quarter the percentage of males was also 89.1 per cent. Of the female registrations, 2515, or 90.5 per cent., were in Group XIII. (Domestic, Hotels, etc.), 1297 being reported in this group from New South Wales, 697 from Queensland, and 521 from Western Australia.

As regards positions filled, 7908, or 80.2 per cent., were for male employees, as against 83.1 per cent. in the preceding quarter, and 1949 for female. Of the latter number 1810, or 92.9 per cent., were in Group XIII. (Domestic, Hotels, etc.), 1046 being reported in this group from New South Wales, 294 from Queensland, and 470 from Western Australia. Out of every 1000 male applicants for work, 349 obtained positions, as against 373 for the preceding quarter, while of the female applicants 701 out of every 1000 obtained work, as against 617 for the fourth quarter of 1916.

SECTION XI —INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

1. The following table shews the number of accidents which were reported in each State during the years 1913 to 1916, and the first quarter of 1917 :—

Industrial Accidents.—Number Reported in each State during the Years 1913 to 1916, and the First Quarter of 1917.

Particulars.				N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
No. of Fatal Accidents	{	1913	82	24	33	5	34	7	185	
		1914	61	26	25	3	31	13	159	
		1915	53	23	17	9	31	11	144	
		1916	52	18	12	8	21	3	114	
		1917—1st Quarter	15	2	6	..	5	2	30	
No. of Accidents in- capacitating for over 14 days	{	1913	3,427	308	286	117	813	79	5,030	
		1914	3,238	367	384	84	763	76	4,912	
		1915	2,811	401	517	97	980	77	4,883	
		1916	2,894	427	428	152	885	76	4,862	
		1917—1st Quarter	753	112	85	58	168	9	1,185	

The number of fatal accidents for the first quarter of 1917 was 30, as against 29 for the fourth quarter of 1916, while the numbers of non-fatal accidents for the corresponding periods were 1185 and 1221, the fatal accidents shewing an increase of one, or 3.4 per cent., and the non-fatal a decrease of 36, or 3 per cent.

2. The following table gives similar particulars regarding accidents in the various industrial groups :—

**Industrial Accidents.—Number Reported in various Industrial Groups during
the First Quarter, 1917.**

Industrial Group.	Fatal	Incap'citated for over 14 days.	Industrial Group.	Fatal	Incap'citated for over 14 days.
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	1	69	VII. Building and Scaf- folding.. ..	2	2
II. Engineering, etc. ..	2	72	VIII. Mining	25	894
III. Food, Drink, etc. ..	..	45	IX. Lifts .. ..	..	1
IV. Clothing, Hats, etc.	..	25	X. Miscellaneous ..	..	8
V. Books, Printing, etc.	..	30			
VI. Other Manufacturing	..	39			
			TOTAL	30	1,185

The majority of the accidents, as in preceding quarters, occurred in the mining industry. In this group there were 25 fatal accidents, as against 22 for the preceding quarter, an increase of 13.6 per cent. In New South Wales there were 15 fatal mining accidents, in Victoria one, in Queensland 4, in Western Australia 3, and in Tasmania 2. The number of non-fatal mining accidents was 894, as compared with 942 for the preceding quarter, a decrease of 5.1 per cent., and of these 644 occurred in New South Wales, 19 in Victoria, 36 in Queensland, 29 in South Australia, 159 in Western Australia, and 7 in Tasmania.

In other industries 5 fatal accidents occurred, 1 in Victoria, 2 in Queensland, and 2 in Western Australia. The number of non-fatal accidents apart from those in connection with mining was 291.

SECTION XII.—THE COMMONWEALTH CONCILIATION

RECORD OF COURT OPERATIONS UNDER THE COMMON- FOR THE QUARTER

1.—COURT

(i.) COMPULSORY CONFERENCES

PARTIES TO CONFERENCE.		PROCEDURE.	INDUSTRY AND LOCALITY AFFECTED.
Employees.	Employers.		
Federated Glass Founders' Association of Australia.	Australian Glass Manufacturers' Company Limited and others.	Application for Compulsory Conference by Employees.	Glass-Bottle Making in Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia.
Federated Seamen's Union of Australasia.	Commonwealth Steamship Owners' Association and others.	Application for Compulsory Conference by Employees.	Shipping Industry off the Coast of Australia.
Federated Engine Drivers' and Firemen's Association of Australasia.	Colonial Sugar Refining Company Limited and others.	Application for Compulsory Conference by Employees.	Land Engine Driving in Western Australia.

* The President may, whenever in his opinion it is desirable for the purpose of preventing or settling compulsory conference presided over by himself.

(ii.) INFORMAL

PARTIES TO CONFERENCE.		PROCEDURE.	INDUSTRY AND LOCALITY AFFECTED.
Employees.	Employers.		
Waterside Workers' Federation of Australia.	Commonwealth Steamship Owners' Association and others.	Application for interpretation as to travelling time between Port Melbourne and Williamstown, Yarraville and other ports.	Shipping Industry at the Port of Melbourne.

(iii.) CASES

CLAIMANT.	RESPONDENT.	DATES OF FILING OR REFERENCE.	INDUSTRY AND LOCALITY AFFECTED.
Musicians' Union of Australia.	J. C. Williamson Limited and others.	Referred into Court.	Musical Profession in Australia.
Federated Glass Founders' Association of Australia.	Australian Glass Manufacturers' Company Limited and others.	Referred into Court on 17th February 1917.	Glass-Bottle Making in New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia.

† A resumé of the main provisions of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Acts 1904-11,

AND ARBITRATION ACTS 1904-1915.†

WEALTH CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION ACT 1904-1915
ENDED 31st MARCH, 1917.

PROCEEDINGS:

SUMMONED UNDER SECTION 16 (a).*

NATURE OF DISPUTE.	DATE OF HEARING.	RESULT.
<i>Re</i> Wages and Conditions of Employment.	Melbourne, 1917, Feb. 15th and 17th.	No agreement arrived at. Dispute referred into Court under Sec. 19 (d) for early arbitration as to what should be the minimum wage for labourers.
<i>Re</i> Wages and Conditions of Employment.	Melbourne, 1917, Feb. 27th, and March 1st.	Parties informed His Honor that agreements were likely to be arrived at. Dispute referred into Court under Sec. 19 (d) of the Act.
<i>Re</i> Wages and Conditions of Employment.	Perth, 1917.	—

an Industrial Dispute, summon any person to attend, at a time and place specified in the summons, at a

CONFERENCE.

NATURE OF DISPUTE.	DATE OF HEARING.	RESULT.
<i>Re</i> travelling time at Port Phillip Port.	Melbourne, 1917, Jan. 5th.	The President, after securing promises to abide by his decision, decided that travelling time must be paid.

HEARD.

NATURE OF CLAIM.	DATE OF HEARING.	RESULT.
<i>Re</i> Wages and Conditions of Employment.	Sydney, 1916. Dec. 4th, 5th, 8th, 11th, 12th, and 13th. Melbourne, 1917, March 2nd & 5th.	Parties came to an agreement which will be filed when executed.
<i>Re</i> Wages and Conditions of Employment.	Melbourne, 1917, March 8th, 9th, and 12th.	Final Award made by Mr. Justice Higgins on 12th March, 1917.

and the Arbitration (Public Service) Act 1911, was given in Labour Bulletin No. 5, pages 53 to 59.

(iv.) APPLICATIONS UNDER SECTION

APPLICANTS.	IN THE MATTER OF AN AWARD IN—
Federated Mining Employees' Association of Australia	Federated Mining Employees' Association of Australia and North Nuggetty Ajax Company No Liability and others.
Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited.	Australian Builders' Labourers' Federation and A. W. Archer and others.
Federated Engine Drivers' and Firemen's Association of Australasia.	Federated Engine Drivers' and Firemen's Association of Australasia and Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited and others.

* The Court shall, as regards every industrial dispute of which it has cognizance,

(v.) APPLICATION FOR THE CANCELLATION OF THE

APPLICANT.	NAME OF ORGANISATION—
J. F. McNamara.	Wool and Skin Stores Employees' Union of Australia.

* If it appears to the Court, on the application of any organisation or person interested, or of the order the registration to be cancelled, and thereupon it shall be cancelled accordingly.

(vi.) APPLICATION TO MAKE UNION BRING

APPLICANT.	RESPONDENT.
Sydney Branch of the Federated Marine Stewards' and Pantrymen's Association of Australasia.	Federated Marine Stewards' and Pantrymen's Association of Australasia.

(vii.) APPLICATION FOR ORDER IN THE NATURE OF

APPLICANT.	RESPONDENTS.
Federated Marine Stewards' and Pantrymen's Association of Australasia.	Newcastle and Hunter River Steamship Company Limited.

* The Court may, on the application of any party to an Award, make an order in

38 (o) TO VARY AWARDS.*

NATURE OF APPLICATION.	DATE OF HEARING.	RESULT.
Application made to Vary Awards of Court Nos. 30 and 31 of 1915, and 13 of 1916, in so far as they apply to Tasmanian mines.	Tasmania, 1917, Feb., 19th and 20th. Melbourne, 1917, March 5th and 6th.	Order Varying Awards made by Mr. Justice Powers on 6th March, 1917.
Application made to Vary Award of Court No. 9 of 1912, and Order Varying Award dated 8th May, 1916, in so far as they apply to the works of the applicant Company.	Melbourne, 1917, Feb. 19th and 21st, Mar. 19th 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd and 27th.	Order Varying Award made by Mr. Justice Higgins on 27th March, 1917.
Application made to Vary Award of Court No. 7 of 1917.	Melbourne, 1917, March 28th and 29th.	Application dismissed.

have power to vary its orders and awards, and to reopen any question.

REGISTRATION OF AN ORGANISATION UNDER SECTION 60.*

REASONS FOR CANCELLATION.	DATE OF HEARING.	RESULT.
That members had transferred to the Storemen and Packers' Union.	Melbourne, 1917, March 20th.	The President, Mr. Justice Higgins, ordered that Registration be cancelled.

Registrar, that for any reason the registration of an organisation ought to be cancelled, the Court shall

ITS RULES INTO CONFORMITY WITH THE ACT.

NATURE OF APPLICATION.	DATE OF HEARING.	RESULT.
Application for an Order to made Union bring its rules into conformity with the Act.	Melbourne, 1917, 27th March.	Application was dismissed.

A MANDAMUS UNDER SECTION 48* OF THE ACT.

PROCEDURE.	DATE OF HEARING.	RESULT.
Application for an Order in the nature of a Mandamus to compel compliance with an agreement made in dispute No. 23 of 1915, and filed on 19th December, 1916.	Melbourne, 1917, 27th March.	Application refused.

the nature of a mandamus or injunction to compel compliance with the Award.

SECTION XIII.—REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS AND BUREAUX IN AUSTRALIA.

(In this Section particulars are furnished of Reports specially affecting labour and industrial matters in the Commonwealth, received since the publication of the last Labour Bulletin).

A.—COMMONWEALTH.

1. **Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners Monthly Report**, July, 1917. (Sydney, F. W. White.)
2. **Amalgamated Society of Engineers Monthly Report**, July, 1917. (Sydney, G. A. Jones.)
3. **The Printing Trades Journal**, June, 1917. (Sydney, "The Worker" Office.)
4. **The Postmaster** (Official Organ of the Commonwealth Postmasters' Association), July, 1917. (Brighton, Victoria, Southern Cross Press.)
5. **The Australian Postal Electricians Union Journal**, July, 1917. (Windsor, Victoria, Fraser & Morphet.)
6. **The Federal Public Service Journal**. (Official Organ of the Australian Commonwealth Public Service Clerical Association), July, 1917. (Melbourne, Taylor & Son.)
7. **Quarterly Report of Federated Society of Boilermakers and Iron Shipbuilders of Australia**, April, 1917. (Newcastle, McLuckie.)

B.—NEW SOUTH WALES.

1. **New South Wales Industrial Gazette**, June, 1917. (Sydney, Government Printer.)
2. **Electrical Trades Journal**, June, 1917. (Sydney, "The Worker" Office.)
3. **The Furniture Trades Journal**, June, 1917. (Sydney, Burrows & Co.)
4. **The Baking Trades Gazette**, July, 1917. (Sydney, A. J. Tomalin & Co.)
5. **The Railway and Tramway Record** (Official Organ of the Grand Council of Railway and Tramway Unions of New South Wales), July, 1917. (Sydney, A. J. Tomalin & Co.)
6. **Moulders Journal**, June, 1917. (Sydney, Burrows & Co.)
7. **Report of Registrar of Trade Unions, etc., for the Year 1916**. (Sydney, Government Printer.)

C.—VICTORIA.

1. **The Railways Union Gazette**, July, 1917. (Melbourne, J. D. Michie.)
2. **The Grocers' Assistant** (Official Organ of the United Grocers', Tea and Dairy Produce Employees' Union of Victoria,) July, 1917. (Melbourne, Hilton Press.)
3. **The Tramway Journal** (Official Organ of the Victorian Branch of the Australian Tramway Employees' Association), July, 1917. (Melbourne, Taylor & Son.)
4. **Report of the Chief Inspector of Factories and Shops for the Year ended 31st December, 1916**. (Melbourne, Government Printer.)

D.—QUEENSLAND.

1. **Queensland Industrial Gazette**, July, 1917. (Brisbane, Government Printer.)
2. **Police Union Journal**, August 1917,. (Brisbane, Moreton Printing Co.)

SECTION XIV.—IMPERIAL AND FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

(In this Section particulars are furnished of Reports specially affecting labour, received from other countries since the publication of the last Labour Bulletin.)

A.—UNITED KINGDOM.

1. **Board of Trade Labour Gazette**, December, 1916, January to May, 1917. (London, T. Fisher Unwin.)

B.—CANADA.

1. **The Labour Gazette**, January to May, 1917. (Ottawa, Government Printer.)

C.—NEW ZEALAND.

1. **Journal of the Department of Labour**.—February to March, 1917. (Wellington, Government Printer.)

D.—UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

1. **Report of the Select Committee on Subject-matter of the Regulation of Wages (Specified Trades) Bill**. (Cape Town, Government Printer.)
2. **Reports of the Select Committee on Food Supplies, Industries and Technical Training**. (Cape Town, Government Printer.)

E.—INDIA.

1. **Prices and Wages in India, Thirty-second Issue**. (Calcutta, Government Printer.)
2. **Wholesale and Retail (Fortnightly) Prices**. December 31st, 1916, to April 15th, 1917. (Calcutta, Government Printer.)
3. **Wheat Prices in India**, January to April, 1917. (Calcutta, Government Printer.)

F.—UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

1. **California**, Seventeenth Biennial Report of the Bureau of Labour Statistics. (Sacramento, State Printing Office.)
2. **Iowa**. Report of the Bureau of Labour Statistics for the Biennial Period ending 30th June, 1916. (Des Moines, State Printer.)
3. **Massachusetts**. (a) Eighth Annual Report on Labour Organisations for the year 1915, (b) Labour Injunctions in Massachusetts, (c) Thirty-sixth Quarterly Report on Employment in Massachusetts, (d) Tenth Annual Report on the Public Employment Offices. (Boston, Wright and Potter Printing Co.)
4. **New Hampshire**. Eleventh Biennial Report of the Bureau of Labour. (Concord, Ira., C. Evans Co.)
5. **New York Industrial Commission**. (a) Annual Report of the Industrial Commission for the twelve months ended 30th September, 1915. (b) Court Decisions on Workmen's Compensation Law, 1st July, 1914, to 1st August, 1916. (c) Fatal Accidents due to Falls in Building work. (Albany, J. B. Lyon Co.)
5. **Virginia**. Nineteenth Annual Report of the Bureau of Labour and Industrial Statistics, 1916. (Richmond, State Printer.)

G.—FRANCE.

1. **Bulletin of the Ministry of Labour**, Nos. 9-12, 1916. (Paris, Berger-Levrault.)

H.—GERMANY.

1. **International Metal Workers' Review**, October to December, 1916. (Stuttgart, A. Schlicke & Co.)
2. **Bulletin of the International Union of Woodworkers**. (Berlin, published by the Union.)

I.—HOLLAND.

1. **Monthly Journal of the Central Bureau of Statistics**, November, 1916, to April, 1917. (La Hague, Gebr. Belinfante.)

J.—ITALY.

1. **Monthly Bulletin of the Bureau of Labour**, July-October, 1916. (Rome, Officina Poligrafica.)
2. **Semi-monthly Bulletin of the Bureau of Labour**, Nos. 1 to 8, 1917. (Rome, Officina Poligrafica.)

K.—DENMARK.

1. **Report of the Inspector of Unemployment for the year 1915-16**. (Copenhagen, H. Jensen.)

L.—FINLAND.

1. **Journal of Labour Statistics**, Nos. 5 and 6, 1916. (Helsingfors, Government Printer.)

M.—SWEDEN.

1. **Social Review**, Nos. 11 and 12, 1916; Nos. 1 to 3, 1917. (Stockholm, P. A. Norstedt and Sons.)
2. **Wages and Hours of Labour in the Agricultural Industry, 1915**. (Stockholm, P. A. Norstedt & Sons.)
3. **Hours of Labour in Barbers' Shops and Bathing Establishments**. (Stockholm, P. A. Norstedt & Sons.)
4. **Conditions of Labour in Forestry in the North of Sweden**. (Stockholm, I. Marcus Co.)

N.—SPAIN.

1. **Bulletin of the Institute for Social Reform**, December, 1916, to April, 1917. (Madrid, Minuesa de los Rios.)

O.—PORTUGAL.

1. **Bulletin of Industrial Labour**, Nos. 103, 104, and 106. (Lisbon, Government Printer.)